An Oscar hopeful, her husband and a bizarre affair page 3

Want a baby? Try love in the afternoon

page 20

really can act

IMES

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS token page 26 Plus 24 pages of APPOINTMENTS

Payments could be delayed for weeks

Go-slow plan to beat fraud on benefits

By Alexandra Frean, social affairs correspondent

BENEFTI claimants will have to wait longer to receive their money under a new fraud crackdown to be unveiled this month by the Social Security

Alastair Darling is to instruct Benefits Agency staff to abandon their policy of processing claims as quickly as possible and they will instead be asked to check every detail of every application to ensure no money is paid to bogus claimants.

Benefit applications now take about nine days to process, with the emphasis on getting money to needy people speedily; charities suggested last night that the new regime could mean some people waiting for weeks.

The new strategy demanding that claimants meet more stringent requirements before receiving any cash reflects the Government's view that it is impossible to stamp out benefit fraud that costs up to £5 biliion a year by relying on hit squads catching out cheats. The emphasis from now on will be on preventing fraud from happening in the first

To back up this approach, the Government is planning to scrap the Weekly Benefit Savings system, under which local authorities receive an estimated £44 million a year in rewards for detecting fraud and

error in benefit payments. Under this system local au-thorities they have a strong in-

centive to allow error and fraud to occur in the first place so that they can later be rewarded for uncovering it. Ministers suspect that some councils may even view the system as a handy way to generate extra revenue and a recent report on Blackpool, for example, found that some 70 per cent claimed by the local au-thority under the system was

In future, local authorities will instead receive financial incentives for establishing more robust and cheat-proof

The Government will soon announce that tougher verification procedures introduced last summer had already saved £200 million in income support payments, and the savings are expected to top Li billion in three years.

A senior government source said: "People should be under no illusions - the DSS should no longer be seen a soft touch: We want it to be seen as somewhere they helps the most needy in society and that helps get people back to work."

Mr Darling, who was said to be appalled at the levels of errors and inefficiency in benefit offices when he joined the DSS last year, is expected to publish bis ami-fraud strategy later this month. Yesterday he said: The prevention of fraud has to be at the top of everything we do at the DSS and it is essential that we get claims right the first time."

The Government will also tell the Post Office to return all benefit cheques to the Benefit Agency, rather than redirecting them. A favourite ploy of fraudsters is to make multiple Housing Benefit claims from different addresses and then get the cheques redirected to a single post office box a pilot bar on redirection in Richmond, Surrey, and Hounslow, Middlesex, saved £200,000 in four weeks.

New information technology systems are also to be introduced to ensure that information received by different goverrment agencies can be cross-checked and matched so that people making multiple claims can be identified automatically.

However, anti-poverty campaigners criticised the new ap-proach, which they said could cause unnecessary hardship. particularly among vulnera-ble groups if it led to delays in benefit payments Martin Barnes, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, said: "Any strategy to tackle error and fraud must be balanced against the real needs of claimanis, many of whom often require support very quickly."

A spokeswoman for Shelter said that the system for claiming Housing Benefit was al-ready fraught with delays. If people fall behind in paying their rent or lose their home because of rent arrears there is a real danger they could be made homeless," she said.



Dani Walthers describing her latest brush with death: "It's been a bad six months."

Gorilla trek survivor's second brush with death

FROM STEPHEN FARRELL IN KAMPALA

AN AIR stewardess who survived the gorilla safari massacre told yesterday bow she had booked the holiday to recover from an earlier escape from

Dani Walthers, 26, was on a standby crew for Swissair Flight 111 which crashed off Halifax, Nova Scotia in September last year, killing all 229 people on board. And on Monay she escaped again when she was released by the bandits after a trek through the jungle that she assumed would lead to a violent end.

Ms Walthers, from Zurich, was rescued at the last minute when the group's American tour guide, Mark Ross, per-suaded Hutu rebels not to take her with them across the border into Congo. Mr Ross later flew the survivors back to Kampala where they held a private candlelit vigil for their eight dead comrades.

Ms Walthers said that she had decided to spend £1,100 on the four-week mountain gorilla safari to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest because she had just started to "settle down" after the Halifax crash.

This was my holiday to get over everything. At one stage in the jungle I cast my mind back and thought 'It has been a bad six months.' I had gone to see a natural healer who told me I would live a long life and I was thinking if this is it, she was lying to me. She has to give me my money back."

As they neared the end of their walk through the rainforest, she said, she had begun disussing music in French to one of her captors until Mr Ross, who was speaking to the bandits in Swahili, warned her to stop. "Mark told me this

guy is pretty keen on you. That was the point I realised I ought to shut my mouth."

She learnt the group wanted to take two tourists into Congo, but Mr Ross dissuaded them. "I felt somebody grab my hair and I started crying and I was thinking 'My life is finished.'I was just praying to get out of the situation."

Ms Walthers said the group had become close, helping each other to cope with stornach problems, insect bites and malaria. When the attack started at 6.45am on Monday, she thought the shots she heard were fireworks, but a friend ran to her shouting "Lie down, lie down, they are firing."

The bandits lined everyone up, took their belongings and waited for people from other camps to be brought there before marching them off bare-foot. The rebels shouted "Nationality? Nationality?" at everyone and they tried to put her with the French, but she wanted to remain with her friend, shrugging as she explained: "By then I thought I was going to be killed and I was thinking I would rather die with my friends than die with French people."

She pretended to know nothing of Hutu-Tutsi politics. Then two of her friends, whom she refused to name, were taken to one side on the trail. Fearing the worst she tried to persuade the Hutus that one man was her brother, but failed. "I only saw their eyes, and it was the last thing I saw. It is like they were family. I spent two weeks sharing a tent with a girl and now she is gone."

President's vow, page 8 Love of travel, page 9

Kinnear in hospital

Joe Kinnear, the manager of Wanbledon Football Club, was taken to hospital half an hour before his side's Premiership game against Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough.

Kinnear was on the pitch with his players about an hour before the kick-off, then complained of feeling unwell. It is believed he was initially ex-amined by Wednesday's club doctor, Ravin Naik.

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Dusty Springfield given **OBE** on her deathbed

DUSTY SPRINGFIELD, who won fame with a string of hits in the 1960s, has died on the day she was to have been presented with an OBE, it was revealed yesterday. Miss Springfield, 59, died on Tuesday after a battle against breast cancer. She had been due to travel

to Buckingham Palace two days ago for an investinare to receive the OBE she was awarded in the New Year Honours list. But when it became clear she was dying, her manager, Vicki Wickham, was given Palace permission to collect the award on the singer's be-half from St James's Palace.

The medal was then presented to Miss Springfield at a small private gathering at her bedside in the Royal Marsden Hospital in London four weeks ago. The Queen joined those who paid tribute to the



Dusty Springfield: death saddens the Queen

singer when she said she was "saddened" to hear of Miss Springfield's death so soon after winning the OBE.

Friends and fans last night described the singer, whose hits included I Only Want To Be With You, as one of the greatest ever produced in Brit-ain. Initially diagnosed with that sh4 had beaten the disease until it returned in 1996. A year ago she was too ill too attend the Brit Awards, but in two weeks she was hoping to be in New York to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with Sir Paul Mc-

Cartney.
Mike Gill worked with the singer for more than three decades and said she had refused to give in to the cancer. He said: "She was a total and utter perfectionist, and a great fighter. Even before the illness she was one of the most stubborn people I have met in my

Miss Springfield's fighting spirit was also displayed when she was deported from South Africa for refusing to sing to segregated audiences.

David Sinclair, page 12



phone number Phone codes to change

New area telephone codes be-ginning 02 and 03 are to be introduced in April next year in spite of the objection of MPs and businesses. Six areas will be affected: London, Northern Ireland, Cardiff, Coventry, Southampton and Portsmouth, but the system will be

for police minorities JACK STRAW has set a

12-month deadline for police to treble the number of recruits from black and Asian communities.

Members of the ethnic minority community now make up 2.2 per cent of the 3,000 officers recruited each year. Mr Straw wants that increased to

March 2000. A Home Office spokesman said last night (wednesday) : "We believe that within a year 6 per cent of recruits should be from the black and Asian communities. We believe this figure is attainable."

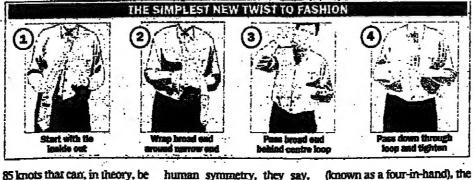
In fact, people from the eth-nic minorities already make up 5.7 per cent of new recruits to the Metropolitan Police. But for the 43 forces in England and Wales the proportion has fallen from 29 per cent last year to 2.2 per cent.

Scientists add style to ties of the old school

BY NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

TWO Cambridge physicists

have applied mathematics to the humble necktie and invented six new "aestheticallypleasing knots, as well as defining the four already in use. But any modern-day Jeeves who turns to Nature in search of inspiration will need a clear head and a knowledge of physics. The technique that Thomas Fink and Yong Mao, of the Cavendish Laboratory. have used to classify knots is called a persistent random walk on a triangular lattice. They calculate that there are



tied with a conventional tie. But many are too complex. and lead to unbalanced and unaesthetic results.

human symmetry, they say, while a knot that is not tightly bound and does not keep its shape, is worthless. When these are eliminated, the final Asymmetric knots disrupt total is ten: the standard knot

Windsor, the half-Windsor, the Pratt (invented in 1989) and six others new to science - although possibly not to creative even created a way of defining each step in tying a knot. Of the six knots new to sci-

ence, all but one are more comolex than the traditional ones, involving six or more steps before the broad end is finally pushed through the front loop.

But one is simpler. It involves starting with the tie inside out, wrapping broad end around narrow end, then up through the centre and down through the loop. It is so simple that it seems it must have been invented before.

But it suffers the disadvantage that when untied, the tie still has a knot in it.



You can count on MPs to back swaggering Blair

artin Bell, the Inde-pendent MP for Tation, was a voice crying in the wilderness yesterday. He asked the Prime Minister whether he would "allow backbenchers more freedom to speak their minds, and vote their consciences." He wanted the Commons to be "more a parliament of a free people. and less a rubber-stamp as-

Some hope. But it was worth Bell's asking, for Tony Blair's reply was remarkable for its swagger. He did not even bother to lie. The standard fib (any of his predeces-

sors would have offered it is that MPs are indeed free. This is asserted while keeping one foot firmly on the neck of a prostrate backbencher.

But so confident is this Prime Minister that he has Government backbenchers are now routinely reading out dispensed with lip service to free speech. Mr Blair replied questions written for written that a Government with a for them) earlier. This used to manifesto and a majority was be deemed 'out of order', but the Chair seems to have given entitled to get its business through the legislature. Full up trying to stop it. Hand in hand with this,

The Prime Minister's growquestions (and answers) are ing bravado coincides with atgetting longer. Only seven were tackled in half an hour titudes from the benches beof Welsh Questions vesterday. hind which are, if anything, On Tuesday, an hour of even more supine than ever.

MATTHEW PARRIS POLITICAL SKETCH

> Health Ouestions covered only thirteen. Monday was brisker, with fifteen reached. Last Thursday achieved nine. The average over the last five hour-long Questions sessions to Departmental ministers is about twelve per hour.

I have compared this with the same period last year and the year before. The figures are 18 and 17. A similar figure obtained 15 years ago. To

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JUDITH CHURCH, Labour

MP for Dagenham, has an-

down at the general election.

ection as the candidate for

Ms Church has represented

the East London seat since the

June 1994 by-election when

she replaced Bryan Gould,

the former Shadow Cabinet

the seat at the 1997 general election with a majority of

17,000, making it one of La-

Ms Church was once tipped

as one of the rising stars among Blairite MPs. She was

elected to Labour's National

Executive Committee in 1992

and also chaired Labour's eco-

been a regular performer in the House of Commons; ac-

cording to the information of-

fice, she has spoken in the

chamber just 26 times during

Ms Church, a former health

and safety officer for the Man-

ufacturing, Science and Fi-

nance union; who also taught

her parliamentary career.

nomic policy commission.

bour's safest seats.

other details were given.

the House is drifting - needs more detailed analysis. The Chair allows a number of MPs to intervene on each question, so we need to check the lengths of individual contributions as well as the number of questions.

I made a spot check on two days fifteen years ago, and two days this week. In 1984 an hour of MPs' exchanges allowed an average of 201 interventions and replies. The fig-ure this week was 104.

So MPs and ministers are nearly twice as prolix now as son is that instead of leaping up with punchy interventions of their own, as part of the cut and thrust of a real exchange. backbenchers are trotting along with little speeches they have prepared (sometimes with the help of whips and ministers) and reading them

For their part, ministers, instead of replying off-the-cuff to "supplementary" (ie, ad lib) questions, are reading out the answers they have prepared to the questions they already know they are going to get. The Chamber is beginning to resemble those Continental as-

reads things "into the record". On Tuesday a backbencher asked the minister whether he had any message he would like her to take back to her constituency. Amazingly, the minister did.

The second reason why MPs now speak for so long is that padding takes longer than substance. To adapt a remark John Major once made about Neil Kianock, their difficulty in bringing their remarks to any kind of a conclusion is that, having nothing to say, they have no way of knowing when they have said it.

Ford puts

millions

into Dome

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

pected to inject £12 million into

the Mobility Zone, billed as a

The donation takes the New

Lord Falconer of Thoroton,

Lord Falconer said the re-

raised E58 million of sponsor-

ship, bringing us up to £120 million, which means we

are on target for the £150 mil-

lion sponsorship we need.

heart and say I'm confident

public money will not be required? I can," he said on Channel 4's Powerhouse.

"Can I put my hand on my

Dectectives are sent for trial

Four detectives, three suspended on full pay and another retired, were yesterday committed to trial by Horseferry Road magistrates, accused of conspiracy to supply drugs, perverting the course of justice and corruption.
Detective Constable Robert

Clark, 37, of Kent; Detective Sergeant Christopher Drury, 37, of Sutton; Detective Constable Peter Lawson, 53, of Croydon; and Roger Pearce, 52, of Wimbledon, retired, face four counts of conspiracy to supply cannabis and intent to pervert the course of public justice.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MP rebuked

The Standards and Privileges Select Committee upheld complaints that Geoffrey Robinson, the former Paymaster-General, had not registered share-holdings in Roll Centre and RI Engineering, the third time he was rebuked by the committee.

Thames dolphin

Sailors and boatmen were put on alert yesterday after a dolphin was sighted in the Thames near Westminister Bridge. It is feared that the animal may be unwell and will suffer if it stays too long in

Sex in prisons

Visits in which prisoners could have sex with spouses and partners are to be considered in a review of visiting arrangements. The Prison Service will look at countries such as Spain where special accommodation has been created.

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Student loses

The Court of Appeal con-demned "harsh" rules that deprive students of state benefits if they take time out from a course. Damian O'Connor, 24, business student at Sheffield, lost an appeal over being denied income support.

Drummer's deal

Tony McCarroll, the drummer sacked by Oasis, accepted a lump sum of £550,000 in return for relinquishing all fu- 🧥 time royalties on the music he was involved in it was disclosed yesterday. His costs are likely to be up to £300,000.

Labour Tories predict MP says mass uprising she will quit at against euro election By JAMES LANDALE

streets in a popular uprising against the "stampede" into the single currency, the Conservative Party predicted last

In a further hardening of the Tory stance against the euro. Francis Maude aligned the party with a fast-growing campaign that he compared to the Countryside Alliance, the gathering of interests that came together to fight the Government's rural policies.

And he said that it would be on an "even greater scale" than the campaign to save foxhunning and protect the countryside that culminated in a march of tens of thousands in London. Senior Tory sources predicted anti-euro marches and said that the party would take part in them.

The widening of the political divide on Europe will be emphasised today when the Tories boycott the first meeting of cross-party working group on euro preparations. The "empry chair policy was ordered by William Hague last week as he withdrew David Davis from the committee in protest at the pro-euro tone of last week's statement on the National Changeover Plan.

All other parties are expected to be represented in the group, chaired by the Labour

Party would join protest marches over 'stampede' into the single currency, writes Philip Webster

MP Barry Sheerman, which will today hear a presentation from the Treasury on the next stage of preparations.

Gordon Brown will attack

the Conservative absence later during Question Time in the Commons. The Conservative leadership has advanced its plans to take a frontline role in the anti-

euro campaign after the publication of the changeover plan and the launch earlier this week of the cross-party New Europe group which bills itself as pro-European and against the single currency. Party strategists are delight-

ed with the emergence of the group led by Lord Owen because, according to one, "it means that people can see that opposition to the euro is not the preserve of the headbang-

luctance to confront the issue too early because of fears of a split with Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine, strategists say that they have brought the battle out into the open themselves by talking to the Prime Minister and Chancellor be-fore last week's statement. "Consorting with the enemy was a very big mistake on

their part," one said. Mr Maude last night said that opposition to the euro brought together people from diverse political backgrounds as well as from business and academic life. "It includes pro-Europeans, Europeans, Euro-sceptics, even a few outright anti-Europeans," he said.

Each one may come with a different mix of arguments. but all unite in a single robust view that Britain should not be stampeded into membership of the single European currency, whether or not it succeeds for it founder members," he

The pro-euro bandwagon is stopped in its tracks, devoid of arguments and reliant upon the continual assertion of spu-rious inevitability." he said. "Instead, it is the many wagons of those who seek a great-

er future for Britain which, from their separate origins. are beginning now to converge Although there had been rein a great caravan train."



Judith Church is to resign for "personal family reasons"

mathematics in West Africa. ster and I have enjoyed this for Voluntary Service Overseas, made her decision known to constituency offi-

In a statement yesterday, she said: "It has been a great privilege to represent the peo-ple of Dagenham in Westmintask." She promised to work hard for the constituency while still an MP and thanked her "loyal and hardworking" office staff for their

Ms Church was last night unavailable for comment. ...





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Love rivals battled after the hunt ball

Farmyard affair was like Jilly Cooper novel. Simon de Bruxelles reports

THE top horsewoman's former husband battling it out with her younger lover in the stable yard after a hunt ball would not have been out of

place in a filly Cooper novel. That was, in fact, how Joan Isaac, a former Horse of the Year Show winner, described her passionate affair with the handsome huntsman 15 years her junior. Yesterday it led to the two

men appearing side-by-side in the dock at Swansea Crown Court. The court was told that three years ago Mrs Isaac, 52, had begun an affair with Anthony Edwards. She had left her husband of 22 years, Wayne Isaac, 45, and moved into a caravan with Mr Edwards, 37, in the yard of the matrimonial home near Neath, South Wales, Grange Farm equestrian centre. At a subsequent divorce bearing, the arrangement had been succincily described by the judge as "a recipe for disaster Soon afterwards Edwards

Thung.

had lost his job as huntsman with the Banwen Miners' Hunt when Mrs Isaac had told her story to the News of the World: it had appeared un-der the the headline, The Tally-Ho Lovers". Isaac, too, had been humiliated when his former wife had advertised the assets of their stud farm and horse-drawn wedding car-riage business without telling

Dean Pullin, for the prosecution, told the court that in Febmary last year, Isaac and his two grown-up sons had been invited to the hunt ball, but Edwards and their mother were hanned on the orders of the hunt committee: Several guests had begun the evening with drinks at Grange Farm, but when the time had come to leave, they had found a large lorry parked across the driveway. As the guests had made their way across the muddy farmyard to a waiting taxi, Ed-wards had turned off the electricity, plunging them into darkness.

After the ball at the Glynchdach Hotel in Neath was over. Dr Barbara Lewis and her husband, Derek, had offered to drive some of the partygoers back to Grange Farm. They had arrived to find the farm tes padlocked and smeared with grease to prevent anyone

The court was told that three



Joan Isaac and Anthony Edwards, 15 years her junior



Mrs Isaac pictured with her former husband, Wayne

Isaac and Edwards were in bed. Mr Pullin said: "Isaac got out of the car and was confronted by Edwards. Edwards was carrying his twitch, a modified pick are handle with a rope attached which is used to subdue horses. As the men confronted each other they started fighting." Dr Lewis, 48, a medical researcher at University Hospital Cardiff, had tried to intervene. Mr Pollin said: "Dr when the police arrived, de-

who had earlier been the

Ouecn's assistant private secre-

tary, became deputy private secretary on Sir Robert's de-

parture, when he was succeed-

ed by his long-serving deputy.

Mrs Francis, 50, was head-

hunted for the City of London job, which she will take up in

early June at the end of a three-year secondment at the Palace from the Treasury.

job that was too good to refuse,

a senior Palace aide said. She

will leave her £60,000-a-year

post after accompanying the Queen and the Duke of Edin-

burgh on next month's state

Oueen has been kindness it-

self in encouraging me to do the right thing for my career.

My only reason for going is that I have been offered a very

She was one of the Queen's

principal advisers during the upheavals after the death of

Diana, Princess of Wales, and

has helped to oversee a nota-

ble shift towards more infor-

mal public royal occasions.

Mrs Francis said: The

visit to South Korea.

In effect she was offered a

Sir Robin Janviin.

the caravan in which Mrs Lewis ran between the two men with the intention of stopping them fighting. She did not think she would be hit, but as she got between them Edwards was seen to swing the wooden twitch and land a heavy blow on her head just above the right eye." She had collapsed and was bleeding heavily but both men had con-tinued fighting. They had still

been fighting 15 minutes later

spite attempts by other guests to pull them apart, and had had to be handcuffed.

Mr Pullin said: "Edwards

المكذا من الدَّعل

was squatting astricle Dr Lewis, who was lying on her back. He was seen to punch her twice on the face." Police had had to wrestle the twitch from his grasp. Dr Lewis had needed six stitches and her face was hadly bruised. Edwards claimed that in the darkness he had mistakenly thought he was hitting Isaac.

Both men pleaded guilty to affray and Edwards also admitted unlawful wounding. Edwards was ordered to pay compensation of £1,000 to Dr Lewis and both men were fined £1,500 with £275 costs. Judge Hugh Williams told them: "I am not sending you to prison because of your age and long-standing good characters. I cannot adjudicate on the rights and wrongs of this bitter dispute which led to these offences."

After the case, Mrs Isaac said: "I'm very relieved that Anthony has not gone to prison. I love him very much and we are going to get married soon. My husband has never been able to get over my leav-ing him for Anthony, but when you fall in love with someone, that's it. During the fight I was locked inside our caravan by Anthony for my

own safety. I was terrified."
Mrs Isaacs, who won the Concours d'Elegance at the Horse of the Year Show twice in the 1970s, has three children, Allison, 34, from a first marriage, and Carl, 24, and Paul, 22, by Isaac. She is also a prize winning horse-drawn carriage driver and was once presented with a cup by the Queen after wirming an event at Windsor.

Elizabeth Richards, Wales secretary of the British Driving Association, said: "Joan is a very colourful character in our sport, but she has quite a colourful private life as well. 'She is a great ambassador for driving and highly respect-

ed in equestrian circles. But she has had this personal tragedy in her life with the divorce and her relationship with Anthony Edwards.* Wendy Marshall, the Associ-

ation's chairwoman said: "She leads what we call in equestr an circles an interesting life. When you get a personality like Joan, things are never



Lynn Redgrave-Clark: her family's tangled relationships were revealed to her as she cooked Thanksgiving dinner

Actress leaves husband who fathered her step-grandson

John Clark, whose lover later married his son Ben

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

LYNN REDGRAVE, up for an Oscar later this month for Gods and Monsters, is divorcing her husband of 32 years after he admitted that he had fathered a child with the woman who later married their

John Clark, 66, told an American gossip columnist that he had been served with the divorce papers on Tuesday "out of the blue", just days before an expose about the family's tangled relationships.
"I had no inkling she would
do that." he said. "I thought we would work things out." Mr Clark, who was also

Redgrave's longtime manager, confesses in next week's National Enquirer that he has been "a naughty boy". He tells the tabloid that he hired a woman identified only as

Nicolette as his personal assistant eight years ago when his wife was travelling. "One thing led to another and we started an affair," he says.

The relationship produced a son, Zachary, but Mr Clark did not tell his wife that he was the father because "I was

grave. "Lynn, who didn't know the boy was my son, grew to love Zachy," he said. py family - of sorts."

broke up, Ben forced Mr

Nicolette married Ben, the

son of Mr Clark and Ms Red-

day's gossip columnist Jean-We really were one big hap-When Nicolette and Ben

nie Williams. The story emerged when Nicolette began dating a married plumber who was working on Mr Clark's house. Mr Clark moved his former lover and their son into the second bome be owned with Ms Redgrave in California, but he refused to allow the plumber there. Nicolette obtained a restraining order against Mr Clark, and be filed one against ber. "None of this

did so while she was cooking

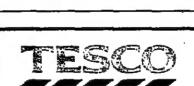
a turkey for a Thanksgiving dinner. "It was a pretty lousy festivity," he told USA To-

Redgrave, 55, added her hosband's name to hers to become Redgrave-Clark last year. The couple also have

two daughters, aged 17 and 29.

would have come out except

for (the order) on record." Mr



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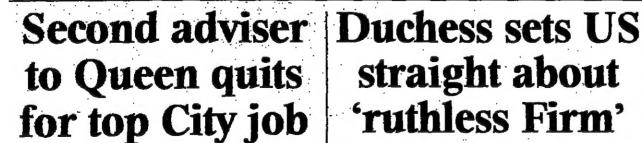
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THE Queen is to lose a second senior adviser only weeks after Sir Robert Fellowes, her private secretary, left Bucking-ham Palace to take a well paid

City job. Mary Francis, the Queen's deputy private secretary, also is to take a job in the City. She has accepted the post of director general of the Association of British Insurers (ABI) and

will leave the Palace in April. The departure of the modemising high-flier comes after Sir Robert became vice-chair-man of Barclays Private Banking last month. Mrs Francis,



Francis modernising influence at the Palace

straight about 'ruthless Firm'

By MICHAEL HARVEY

THE Duchess of York has said many things about the Royal Family in her time but she has never called them a bunch of murderous thugs". So when the American

media yesterday proclaimed that the Duchess had accused the royals of being ruthless criminals, alarm bells rang in her PR offices on both sides of the Atlantic. Forumately the explanation

was simple enough. It was a classic case of two countries divided by a common language. For Britons the expres-sion "The Firm" in a royal context means the Queen's household but for Americans it means the novel about Mafia lawyers by John Grisham and

the subsequent film.

After the Duchess had talked to an interviewer for the upmarket Ladies' Home Journal about "The Firm", she was widely understood to be saying that the Royal Family was out to get her and would stop

at nothing.
The tabloid New York Post claimed she had compared the Royal Family to "murderous thugs who've done everything in their power to destroy her". In the Grisham story, the high-

advisers, Howard J. Rubenstein Associates, said: "This is the sort of misunderstanding that often happens here. American writers don't understand the meaning of 'The Firm' in a Buckingham Palace context."

Kate Waddington, her spokeswoman in London, insisted that it was "absolutely a mistake in interpretation".

The Duchess tells the maga-

zine that she is a survivor and. in a comment the Americans stood, adds: "Historically, many of the women who left the Royal Family have been beheaded but I've still got mine."

She does though draw one comparison with a film: "Have you seen The Horse Whisperer? I feel like the horse in The Horse Whisperer," re-ferring to the story in which a horse is traumatised after be-

ing hit by a truck.
The Duchess says the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, added urgency to her mission to find herself. "I knew that Diana had died not really loving the person she was."

Hermit's reform lasts five minutes

By Shirley English

AN EXPERIMENT in freeing a reclusive vagahond responsible for a one-man petty crime wave appeared to have failed last night. Robert Sinclair. 51. who has shanned civilisation for 20 years, was set free three weeks ago at Stirling Sheriff Court. central Scotland, to see if he was

canable of rejoining society. But vesterday he was being sought by police after he inited to turn up for sentencing over a string of thefts. Sinclair, who had spent four months in jail on remand, was given a second chance by Temporary

Sheriff John McDonald three weeks ago. He was released on bail, pending yester-day's court hearing, on condition that he stayed at a friend's house in Bainsford,

Preda Angus, the friend's wife, said: Robert came in for less than five minutes. He just said hello. We had a quick chat. Then he said That's me away, and he was off. I don't expect to see him again." Sinclair, noted for his survival skills, had launched sporadic raids on isolated farms, caravans and barns, stealing tins

of food, clothes, toiletries and drink.

Although jobless, he claimed no state ben-

efits and lived in makeshift camps and outhouses. He was caught after a farmer noticed training-shoe prints in the mud around his barn. The farmer was suspicious as all the farm workers wore wellington boots. Police were called and fourti the hermit's den near by.

Sinclair pleaded guilty in January to 14 charges of theft between December 1997 and October 1998. Yesterday Sheriff Robert Younger issued a warrant for his arrest, Central Scotland Police said that the search would be widespread as Sinclair was known to wantier for miles through countryside and woodlands.

Hair X-ray can reveal risk of breast cancer

Nigel Hawkes reports on a simple screening system

HAIR could be used as a simple screening test for breast cancer, scientists in Australia have found.

The molecular structure of hair shows subtle differences in women who either have breast cancer or carry the gene. BRCA1, which indicates a much higher risk of succumbing to the disease.

Dr Veronica James of the University of New South Wales in Sydney, with colleagues in Japan and America. says that the changes are so consistent that they could be used for screening purposes. They appear to involve alterations to the fatty layers in the membrane that binds the hair molecules together. These changes occur as the hair is formed in the hair follicle, the team says in Nature, although it is not yet clear why breast cancer or a predisposition to it should cause such changes.

The team used hair samples - taken from the scalp or the pubic area - supplied by colleagues at the Cancer Research Campaign's Christie Research Centre in Manchester. The hairs were suspended in an X-ray beam and the diffraction pattern observed. The wavelengths of X-rays are close to the spacing of atoms in

the pattern of scattering of the X-rays as they pass through molecules can be used to work out molecular structure.

In this case, the team tested 23 hairs from cancer patients and 28 from healthy women. All the former showed an additional diffuse ring in the X-ray diffraction pattern, which absent from all but four of the 28 healthy women.

They also looked at hair samples from women believed to be at high risk of breast cancer, because they have close rel-

SPLITTING HAIRS

Hair analysis has a cheq-nered history (Nigel Hawkes writes). Examining mineral content can detect high levels of heavy metals, such as lead, but there are few grounds for more ambi-tious claims. Many corporations use hair analysis to detect drug abuse, but there are dangers. Dark hair seems to accumulate more cocaine than light hair, for example, so tests may be unfair to some

ations who suffer and carry a mulation of the breast cancer gene, BRCAI. Three out of five showed the full changes seen in the breast cancer patients and the other two showed a partial change. The team says that hair taken from the scalp can give misleading results if the hair has been permed within the past three months; pubic hair gives better results.

identified all the samples from women with breast cancer, but further investigation into the sensitivity and specificity of this test is necessary. It is possible that this may lead to a simple and reliable screening method for breast cancer using a single pubic hair." ☐ German scientists have found that substances that make brain cells grow are also important for the growth of hair follicles. This could lead to new cures for baldness, they say, or to new ways of keeping unwanted body hair at bay.

They conclude: "We correct-

Dr Ralf Paus, of the University Hospital in Hamburg. told New Scientist that it was not too far letched to propose using brain-derived neurotrophic factor and neurotrophin-1 for hair disorders. "particularly if you can apply them topically in lotions".



Hadassa Carmon and her husband Arie. Mrs Carmon, who has cancer, was given the all-clear in BUPA screening but could not sue the insurer

BUPA patient demands reforms

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A WOMAN struggling to beat cancer after being given the all-clear three times by BUPA breast screening is call-ing on MPs to tighten controls on private health insurance. Hadassa Carmon's plight is to be studied by the Commons Health Committee, which is inquiring into regulation of independent healthcare.

Mrs Carmon, 59, received £143,000 from Janet Page, the radiologist responsible for her second screening, in an out-of-court settlement. The patient. from Reigate, Surrey, had to withdraw her writ against BUPA after learning. to her distress, that the insurer had no responsibility for doctors' actions.

Mrs Carmon, a secretary, had a "well-woman" screening through BUPA, including a mammogram, in 1992. The doctor asked her to return within a year after what appeared to be a benign calcification was seen. After eight months she was told there was no significant change. A year later, the same happened.

In 1994, while on holiday in Israel, she consulted a GP about back pain. He found a breast lump. It was too late to operate - the cancer had spread. so she began chemotherapy and radiation. "It is a pretty lousy life,"

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Mrs Carmon and her husband Arie, an engineer, were told they could sue only the doctor in the second screening.

The insurer is responsible for the management of hospitals such as Gatwick Park, where Mrs Carmon was screened, and for nursing and equipment. Doctors provided under BUPA insurance are independent contractors, with full clinical responsibility for patients. Had a NHS doctor failed her, she would have been able to sue the trust. Mr Carmon says BUPA should be legally responsible for quality of

she said yesterday from Tel Aviv, where she is being treated. "I have a lot of pains. I can hardly move. I feel sick." breast clinic, said that if a woman with ian Fentiman, of Guy's Hospital's a lump was referred to an NHS clinic it will take a history, examine her, do a mammogram and do everything necessary. Too many people just go along [privately] and have a mammogram and if the mammogram is all right

they assume they haven't got cancer."
BUPA said last night: "Complaints
to BUPA hospitals are taken very seriously indeed". If a patient sued a con-sultant, "we would investigate the complaint thoroughly. We looked at the complaint and we have had no reason to investigate further into Dr Page."

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THE EASY ROUTE TO THE RIGHT TELEPHONE

Consultants | Makers 'blocked work hard for time off

By Helen Johnstone

HOSPITAL consultants are pioneering a scheme that allows them to work longer shifts in return for three months off.

The scheme followed a request by one consultant to have time off last year with his new baby. Phillip Hormbrey crammed 15 months' work into a year at the accident and emergency department at The John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford. He said: "It was physically hard but it was well worth doing. It was an opportunity I would not otherwise have had."The scheme has been extended to other consultants in the department.

David Skinner, one of the others now working extra sessions, said the scheme improved continuity of care, divided work more evenly and reduced stress because staff could get away from it all if they had built up the hours.

safer cigarettes'

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE tobacco industry has researched and then ignored hundreds of patents for safer cigarettes that could have saved tens of thousands of lives over the past 25 years, anti-smoking campaigners said yesterday.

The patents are said to range from additives such as citric acid, which neutralises some of the 3.000-plus dangerous compounds found in a cigarette, to tiny catalytic converters, working like those on cars.

The report by ASH and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund also said that the European Union should require tobacco companies to measure and disclose the hazardous constituents of tobacco smoke, and then take steps to reduce them.

The report - which was launched in the Patent Office in London - includes inventions to reduce everything from tar, carbon monoxide

and nitric oxide to hydrogen sulphide and potassium. Many were patented by tobacco companies.

Clive Bates, director of ASH, said tobacco firms knew how to make safer cigarettes but doing so would cause problems for them. There would be a legal one because by making a safer eigarette they would acknowledge that they are dangerous. There is a mar-keting one because to sell their product they need to create a sex, glamour, fast-car image.

There is a cost headache and there is the headache that if they removed one substance they would then be made to start removing other ones."

John Carlisle of the Tobacco Manufacturers' Association rejected the claims and said that the industry had been working for more than 20 years to make safer cigarettes. "Just because something is patented doesn't mean it works."

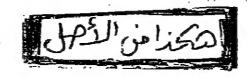


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1999, YEAR OF THE ELECTIONS: THE PLAYERS AND THE POLICIES

X still marks the spot for the European, local and assembly elections this year, but voters must use different systems for each. Will they get your vote?

PR creates the virtual contest

THE 2nd Earl of Stockton and Terrye Jones are direct politi-cal rivals but do not know each other. The Tory peer and the Liberal Democrat businesswoman are effectively competing for the same Euro-

pean seat but have never met. Mrs Jones knows only that her opponent is the grandson of Harold Macmillan, the former Prime Minister. Lord Stockton knows only that the Cornish mother of three stood unsuccessfully for Falmouth and Camborne at the 1997 gen-

They have not bumped into each other campaigning on the doorstep. Neither has criticised each other's policies in a press release or speech. Yet both know that one of them will be elected to Strasbourg and one will not.

This curiously novel brand of political competition is a clear result of the new system of proportional representation for the Euro-poll on June 10.

Seven seats are up for grabs in the South West, a conglomerate of seven counties, 51 Westminster constituencies. and 3.5 million voters. Barring

extraordinary swings, Labour, the Tories and the Liberal Democrats are likely to win two seats apiece. So the battle is on for the remaining sev-

enth seat. With Labour unlikely to get another seat, the campaign is effectively between Lord Stockton and Mrs Jones. Both know that to win, their parties have to secure about 36 per cent of the vote across the region, by no means an easy task.

Lord Stockton's vote could be hit by hardline anti and pro-European groups luring Tory supporters away. The Liberal Democrats would need huge gains to reach the required total, despite their traditional strength in the region. For Lord Stockton, 56, the

hurdles are obvious. "Someone who manufactures missile systems in Gloucester and someone who fillets fish in Newquay are somewhat different, and trying to make them think they are affected by the

She is worried about voter and activist fatigue after the losame issues is difficult." The peer, president of the Macmillan publishing group, stood for Strasbourg in 1994 cal elections in May. "We have to get people motivated to pull those voters in between the disand is known within the Tory trict and Euro-elections."

Terrye Jones, a businesswoman, is competing against an opponent she has never met

Michael's future in the hands of the nationalists

WHITEHALL EDITOR

RHODRI GLYN THOMAS is the Plaid Cymru saviour who can help Labour's Alun Michael to become the First Secretary of the Welsh assembly. The Weish Secretary's future is said to rest on whether Mr Thomas wins the Labourheld Westminster seat of Carmarthen East and Dinefwr for the nationalists. That would guarantee Mr Michael's place as head of the Mid and West

Wales PR list Forty seats will be elected by first past the post, and 20 by proportional representation. Support for Plaid Cymru is running at 20 per cent in Wales, compared to 10 per

cent at the last election. Mr Thomas, 45, is fighting hard to win the seat for himself and to help Plaid Cymru I have been told that people. with beards are unelectable. Well, I am determined to

prove them wrong." He believes there is a real chance that Dafydd Wigley, the Plaid Cymru leader, could be First Secretary. "Plaid Cymru is not interested in Alun Michael's political future as an individual, we want to be the force inside the assembly, and if the swing continues, we could be in the position of sharing power with Labour or being the majority party."
Nor has he detected

ploy in the Labour campaign to hand over victory. Chris Liewellyn, director of the Consumer Council in Wales, is putting up a strong contest for Labour in the string of Welsh towns such as Ammanford. Newcastle Emlyn and Llandovery which are scattered throughout the constituency.

Mr Thomas admits that Labour voters are pledging to vote for him, but says that it is more to do with distillusionment with Labour than any tactic to ensure Mr Michael's

place as First Secretary.

We have done a telephone canvass of 15,000 voters, a quarter of the constituency, and there is a lot of anger with Labour. They feel the leader-ship was stitched up and they are deeply frustrated with Labour's internal politics which they believe does not represent

Plaid Cymru has gained by this for people are turning to us to represent their views and

Mr Thomas is also incensed that senior Labour figures in Wales appear to be rather com-None of them have been selected for the assembly yet, and the result is not a foregone conclusion. There are strong reasons to believe that people will vote differently for

LAURA ASHLEY

pean issues.

Asked why he is standing.

he replies: "As Europe devel-

ops, there are bound to be dis-

putes between the sovereign

nation states. Is is not better

for me to be trying to sort them out in Brussels or Strasbourg.

rather than my son in Nor-

Lord Stockton is a keen sup-

porter of hunting and shooting. but despite his image as a typi-cal hereditary peer, he has

long experience of the demo-cratic process. His strategy is

simple: "We are trying to stop

people staying at home be-

cause they are unhappy about

lar view. The managing direc-

tor of KCS Trade Print, a

Launceston-based company

employing 27 people, said: The issue here is to maximise

turnout on the day. In the gen-eral election, we had about 80

per cent here. In the European'

elections, you would be lucky

Mrs Jones, 46, takes a simi-

the whole European thing."

mandy or Flanders?"

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Old friends re-emerge as enemies for Dewar

SCOTLAND

By JASON ALLARDYCE SCOTTISH POLITICAL REPORTER

was an awkward member of the brown ale brigade which ruled the Labour Party in Scotland in the 1980s.

As he prepares to become leader of Scotland's first parliament in 300 years, he does not spend much time harking back to the days when princi-ples rather than power seemed

to be all that mattered. He may have stood shoul-der to shoulder with Tommy Graham. Dennis Canavan and Tommy Sheridan as they waged a bitter war against Thatcherism, but he and the party no longer say much weapons. Messrs Graham and Sheridan have been expelled for bringing the party into disrepute and Mr Canavan is about to be thrown out.

Mr Dewar's problem is that his three old friends have invited themselves to the Holyrood party clutching a carry-out of old scores to settle.

Twenty-stone, chain-smokine Tommy Graham has a



I IS CHINCLUI TO SUENCE. It is said that he gargles every morning with gravel. The West Renfrewshire MP was expelled last year after an internal investigation into allegations of membership irregularities and factionalism in his constituency. He is plotting revenge as an Independent candidate in Paisley against Wendy Alexander, a former adviser to Mr Dewar who he

in the west of Scotland.

blames for his downfall. If he fails to win in the firstpast-the-post section, he may secure 7 per cent of the PR vote

Tommy Sheridan, expelled in 1989 for leading a poll tax non-payment campaign, could prove even more problematic as a PR member. If he can get his Scottish Socialist Party reg-Robin Hood of Scottish politics stands an excellent chance of being returned in Glasgow.

The populist city councillor does not invite comparisons with Derek Hatton but his Militant past makes them inevitable and he could enjoy an equally high profile as he argues for higher taxes. Dennis Canavan could be

the most troublesome of all after being rejected by Labour as a Holyrood candidate. The raikirk West MP clai fell victim to an ideological cull after voting against bene-fit cuts for single mothers and the bombing of Baghdad. The trouble for Mr Dewar is that many colleagues agree with him. He would be prepared to use his position as an Independent in a hung parliament to help to outvote Labour.

Scotland may be blazing a trail on constitutional reform but if this is what it means for Labour, Tony Blair may wish to pause before giving Westminster a taste of Scotland's medicine.

Hague's survival rests on big gains by Tories

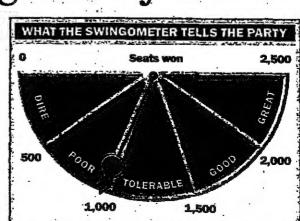
LOCAL POLLS BY TIM HAMES

COUNCILLORS, who almost universally feel that their authority was undermined by 18 years of Conservative rule, may take pleasure in the likelihood that the big-gest impact of this years local authority elections will be on the standing of William

Hague.
The various contests to be fought in May-June are by far the most serious test of public sentiment since the general election. They are also the biggest sample until the next one and are thus critical for the Conservative lead-

The Tories enter the local elections on May 6 knowing that all expectations rest with them. These contests are based in areas of England and Wales last contested in May 1995. This was the absolute low point of the Major years. The Conservatives won scarcely 25 per cent of votes, the worst such result recorded, lost 59 councils, and 1,885 council seats. This followed elections in May 1991 that were also unimpressive for the Tories. Labour, on the other hand, won 44 per cent of the vote, an accurate forecast of the 1997 out-

The various changes in lo-



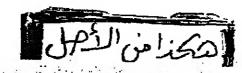
cal government make exact comparison difficult. In 1995, for example, the Scottish local elections were held in April, while the rest of Great Britain went to the polls four weeks later.

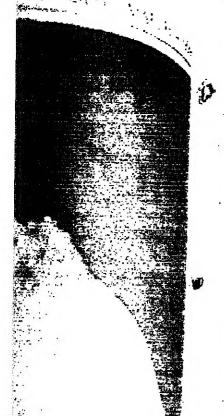
This year all parts of the kingdom will do political business at the same time. The alterations to the structure of English councils also make matters more confusing. Nonetheless, the broad trend indicated here applies.

The Leader of the Opposition knows that his party must make huge gains or there will be renewed speculation about his leadership. Anything less than a 500-seat advance would imply another massive Labour majority at the next general election. In fact a larger Labour majority would be plau-sible. The European elections in June would then be make or break for his tenure.

A pick-up of between 500 and 1,000 seats would be distinctly unimpressive. If the European result was also lacklustre, Mr Hague would face a very difficult party con-

A gain of 1,000 or 1,500 seats would be the minimum acceptable — although hard-ly inspiring. Anything more, 1,500 to 2,000 sears, would be a bonus, suggesting the par-ty had at least shaken off the Major legacy. More than 2,000 seats would see the champagne flowing at Conservative Central Office. At the moment, though, moderate white wine seems much more likely.





reform

kers block r cigares THE TIMES THURSDAY MARCH 4 1999

1999, YEAR OF THE ELECTIONS: HOW IT WORKS

SCOTTISH AND WELSH ASSEMBLIES Elections to the Scottish parliament and Welsh assembly will be under parliament (one more than the number of Scottish members at Westminster since Orkney and Shottand by the Coloney and the additional member system, similar to that used in Germany. Shetland is being split into two).

Everyone will have a second vote Everyone has two votes. One is cast for constituency members elected on the same first-past-the-post basis as members of the House of Commons and representing the same districts. There will be 73 constituency members in the new Scottish elect top-up members (a total of

56 in Scotland). People will mark an

X against lists of candidates drawn up by the various parties. These lists

Scotland (each of seven to ter The total votes cast for a party in a region are divided by the number of seats won (including constitu members) olusione. The largest total

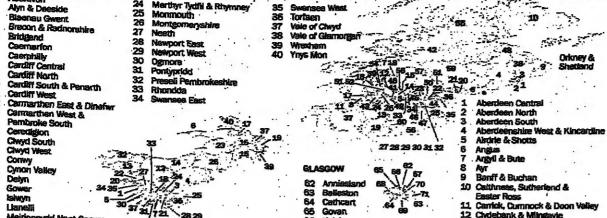
Elections will be on the basis of are huge: the South East will stretch from Militon Keynes to Dover with 11 European Parliament members. distered parties will nominate candidates. Voters will mark an X against the party or an individual candidate, but they will have no

The first seat will be allocated to the party or individual candidat the highest number of votes. The second and subsequent seats are located on a similar formula to the top-up seats in Scotland or Wa Thus. If the Tories win the first seat in a region, their vote will then be divided by two, and compared with

Elections to the House of Commons and to local councils will continue to be under the familier first-post-the-post system under which a voter places an X against the candidate of his or her choics and the winner is the one with the most votes, regardless of whether this is more than 50 per cent of the total votes cast.

ELECTIONS TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES

EUROPEAN ELECTIONS



18 Dumbarton 19 Dumfries 20 Dundee East 21. Dundee West 22. Dunfermline East 23. Dunfermline West East Kilbride East Lothian 29 Edinburgh North & Leith 30 Edinburgh Pentiands 31 Edinburgh South 32 Edinburgh West 33 Falkirk East 34 Falkirk West 35 Fife Central

40 Hamilton North & Betishill 41 Hamilton South 42 Inverness East, Naim & Lochaber 48 Moray 49 Motherwell & Wishaw 49 Motherwell & Wishaw
50 Ochii
51. Perth
52 Paisley North
53 Paisley South
54 Renfrewshire West
55 Rose, Skye & Inverness West
56 Rouduigh & Barwickshire
57 Striffer 57 Stirling 58 Strathke

> Witshire North and Bath Hampshire North and Oxford Thames Valley

Somerset and North Devor Itchen, Test and Avon

THE SYSTEM

BRITAIN is about to inaugu-rate its most far-reaching conseats, not just in the European stitutional and electoral experielections but also in Scotland ment. On May 6, voters in Scotland and Wales will elect and Wales, than under first past the post. The test for the Tory leader-ship is how far it makes the Eudevolved legislatures. Both in these elections and those for the European Parliament on June 10, all adults in Great

chance of voting in elections under proportional representation, as well as the familiar first-past-the-post system. Tony Blair's approach.

A further twist is the forma-This year's elections are the most extensive before the next general election. Not only will everyone have a vote in the European elections, but roughly vens and Brendan Donnelly, 85 per cent of England, and all of Scotland and Wales, will MEPs who left the party over

Experiment

will be test

for parties

and voters

By PETER RIDDELL

Britain will have their first

also have elections for local

councils. The exceptions are

the London bor-

some unitary,

single-tier au-

England, The

elections will

be a major test

of the populari-

ty of the Gov-

ernment and

the recovery of

the Tory party

under William

Hague. Inter-

pretation will

be complicated

by comparison

with seats last

fought in 1995

and also by the impact of the

Liberal Demo-

crais. In many

areas there is

not so much a

three-party sys-

tem as differ-

ing two-party

thorities

dates in Lon-

in the

out of eight constituency seats in a region, the SNP two and Tories one; La-bour gets 125,000 votes, SNP 90,000, Tories 82,000, Ub Dems 40,000. Under the formula for topup seats by which votes cast are divided by seats won plus one, Labour would have 20,000 votes, the SNP 30,000, Tories 30,000 and Lib Dems 40,000. So the Lib Dems would take the first seat. When this formula is repeated for all six top-up seats, the Lib Dems get one, the Todes and SNP two each, and Labour one. Overall, Łabour ands up

systems with Liberal Democrats fighting Labour in big cities and industrial areas and challenging the Tories in rural areas and small towns. Much depends on local campaigns and on the character of local authorities. A wide-spread expectation is that the

Tories may gain seats in what used to be seen as safe areas from the Liberal Democrats and Labour, while Labour is vulnerable to the Liberal Democrats in urban areas, especially in the North. One direct result is likely to be that Labour will be in over-

of conflict between town halls and Whitehall, about not only also implementation of education and other reforms. Turnout in the European elections has traditionally been low, less than half the level of general elections. But will this be boosted by PR, since

elected? PR offers the Tories

all control of fewer councils.

That will increase the chances

the level of central grants, but voters in every part of the country will have a chance of hav-ing someone from their party

ropean elections a battle over the single currency. This might rally core supporters, but it risks aggravating internal divisions, especially since Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine now publicly back

tion of the Pro-European Conservative Party by John Ste-Europe after failing to be selected as official candidates. The new party may field candi-

don and the TOP-UP EXAMPLE South East.

Most attention is likely to be on the Scothish and Welsh elections. Because of PR, the outcomes are far from certain. bour, which won 56 out of 1997 general election, is not expected to win an overall majority on May 6, and will probably have to govern in coalition with the Liberal Democrats. with six seats, SNP tour, Tories three, Lib Dems the Scottish Naone. Simple, eh? tionalists are

> majority, they could emerge as by far the largest opposition party. Their dream, and Labour's nightmare, is that Labour and the Liberal Democrats together will not have a majority,and will depend on

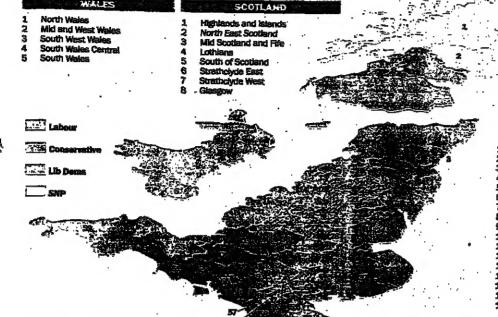
Tory support.

Labour is in a much stronger position in Wales in the face of more evenly divided opposition parties, although its standing may have been affected by the battle for the Labour lead-

ership in the elections. The results will matter not just for devolution but also for the prospects of coalition polirics on a national scale. If Labour and the Liberal Democrats can work together in Scotland, that will influence the debate at Westminster about co-

operation between them. The elections will also be a test for PR. How will voters cope with a complicated new system, or rather systems? The additional member system will be used in Scotland and Wales; the party list system in the European elections.

Leading article, page 23



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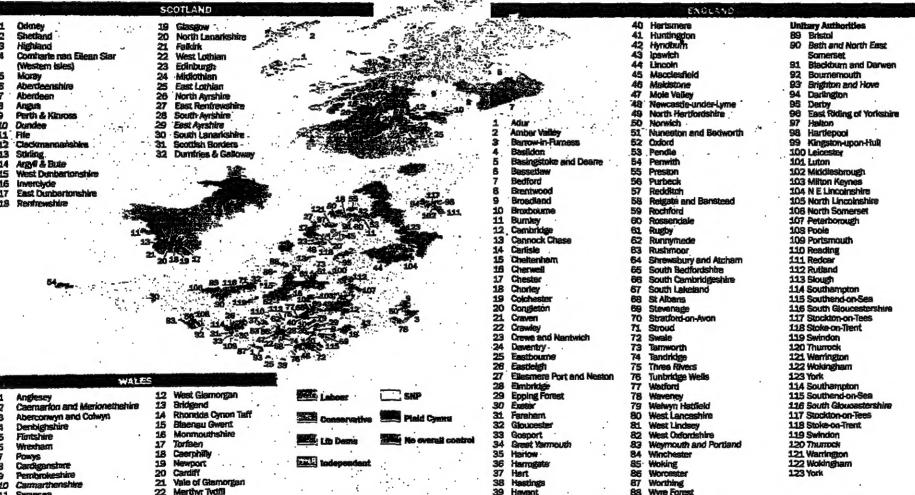
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Kent East

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LOCAL ELECTIONS



Councillors face battle with apathy as well as political rivals

By ALEXANDRA FREAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE big question surrounding this year's local government elections in England is not who will win but how many people will

The turnout for last year's council polis was only 26 per cent. In

Salford, less than one in five made the trip to the polling booth. The decline was largely a result of the changes in central government. During nearly 20 years of Conservative rule, Labour supporters were keen to east a vote locally to register their disapproval of the Government. But now opinion polls show high support for Labour, eliminating the prospect of a large anti-government protest vote. It remains to be seen how Conservative supporters, who traditionally do not show a high turnout at local elections, respond.

Gerry Stoker, Professor of Politics at Strathelyde University, believes that the local government system in England could be discredited if turnout does not show a healthy rise on May 6. "We are get-

TOWN HALLS

ting close to meltdown in terms of legitimacy. When a political sys-tem can muster so few potential voters it is in need of a quite radical overhaul to bring it back into democratic accountability," he said.

The main beneficiaries of the

democratic deficit in English local

government are likely to be the Liberal Democrats. With the Conservatives too weak to offer a real challenge to Labour in urban areas, the most effective alternative to the status quo will be a vote for Lib Dem councillors. The party is on course to make significant gains in Sheffield, where there has been only one year since the war when Labour has not been in control, and

in Newcastle and Leeds. Wales is likely to share the apathy of England. Tony Travers, local government expert at the London School of Economics, said: "The Tories have died out significantly in Welsh local government. Will it be the nationalists or the Liberal Democrats who are best be able to exploit any Labour lack of popularity? The picture for the Scottish local

elections is quite different. Interest in politics has been heightened by the Scottish parliament campaign The turnout for the devolution ref-

erendum was 60 per cent. Any anti-government surge in ur-ban Scotland is likely to benefit Scottish National Party candidates. Professor Stoker believes, however, that Labour's dominance is unlikely seriously to be dented.

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The camp in Bwindi National Park, shortly after the Rwandan rebels struck. The park will now be permanently guarded by the Ugandan Army

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Uganda vows to hunt down forest killers

had not done enough to protect eight foreign tourists — in-cluding four Britons — who were backed to death in a Uganda national park. He promised that his army would pursue the Rwandan rebels responsible across the Congoese border until they were capured or killed.

Mr Museveni, who has been credited with restoring stability and economic order to Uganda after 15 years of chaos and horror under idi Amin and Milton Obote, said the kill-ings vindicated his decision last August to send troops into the Democratic Republic of Congo, where they have been helping rebel forces trying to topple the regime of President Kabila. "We were right to take firm action from the start. That is why our army went

Robin Lodge and Stephen

Farrell in Kampala, on Museveni's fury

into Congo — to prevent blood-shed spilling over the entire region," Mr Museveni told a press conference at State House in the Ugandan capital, But he said his Government

had been guilty of laxity and oversight in failing to deploy troops to protect tourists visiting the Bwindi National Park. home to Uganda's rare moun-He said he was aware of the danger from cross-border raids in other border areas and had sent troops there, de-

> he said he did not know of the specific risk in Bwindi. Unforumately, I did not have the intuition with Bwindi, because I had never been there. But the Government should not have to depend on the President's intuition," he

spite fears that this would deter tourists from visiting. But

He vowed that the park, also known as the Impenetrable Forest, would now be permanently guarded by army units and that there would be no further threat from the attackers. They are understood to have been members of the Interahamwe Hutu militia, which was responsible for the 1994 genocide of Tutsis in

The eight victims of Mon-day's slaughter, who included four women, were among 14 tourists abducted early on Monday by more than 100 mi-litiamen. The survivors were forced to march for nine hours through jungle-covered hills before being released at the Congolese border. In a note handed to one of them, the attackers said their aim was to destabilise Uganda — a close ally of the Tutsi-led regime in

chaos in the region, and to tell the world there was a war going on. But some survivors said it

appeared that anglophone tourists were carefully selected for killing to warn the United States and Britain to end what is seen as their support for the Congolese rebel movement against President Kabila.

Mr Museveni said he had sent a battation of troops into Congo to hunt the attackers. "If we do not catch them, we will kill them," he said. He reected the notion that Uganda had provoked such attacks by its military presence in Congo. "Our troops in Congo — they know their address. They should go and fight them. Why attack civilians - women and children, who have nothing to do with politics?"

Michael Cook, the British High Commissioner in Kampala, said last night that targeting tourist camps was a "new departure" which had "great security implications".

Mr Cook, tourist officials and the President said they were unaware of any leaflets threatening attacks on specific locations or Britons and Americans. He would investigate such claims, but insisted thatno such threats had been brought to his attention beforehand. These are not people who usually think in a straight line. Their record in Rwanda

Killing machine, page 21



Museveni: vowed to

French envoy 'did all she could'

FROM ADAM SAGE

THE French Deputy Ambassador to Uganda, Anne Peltier. did everything she could to save the British and American tourists hacked to death on Monday, René Roudaut, the French Ambassador in Kampala, said yesterday.

M Roudaut said that Mme Peltier, 52, had shown presence of mind and courage when Hutu extremists descended on the camp, where she was staying with her two daughters, a friend of theirs and an embassy employee. The Ambassador's com-

ments came after the massacre of the eight holidaymakers re-ignited controversy over France's role in arming and allegedly protecting the Interahamwe militia.

Critics say that the French authorities continue to give at least tacit backing to the mili-tia that was behind the killings on Monday. M Roudaut said

THE DIPLOMAT

that Mme Peltier, who was in the Bwindi National Park on the safari, had created a sort of common language with them. She entered into conversation with them to try to buy time." The rebeis were wondering who they should leave and who they should take with them. Mme Peltier said: You should leave everyone"."

When it became clear that some of the tourists would be taken hostage, Mme Peltier tried to convince the Interahamwe to release the women and children, M Roudaut said However, four women were killed. Mme Peltier's youngest

daughter, aged 12, had burst into tears when the Hutu extremists appeared, the Ambas-sador said, adding: "That might help to explain why the group of French people were left behind." Mme Peltier returned to Kampala on Tuesday with her daughters, but was not at work yesterday.

Hatred rooted in colonial struggle

By SAM KILEY AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

THE English-speaking tourists killed by the Hutu militia, while their Frenchspeaking friends were spared, were victims of the "Fashoda syndrome", a French obsession that Anglo-Saxons are trying to take over Central Africa.

Paris's support for the genocidal Hutu regime in Rwanda, in 1994 and after its overthrow, saved the French tourists in the Bwindi National Park. The Anglo-Saxon tourists were punished for their Governments' support for Uganda and their Tutsi allies, in a way the Hutus, who killed a million Tutsis, know best — with clubs and machetes.

The "Fashoda Incident" dates back 100 years to when Britain frustrated French hopes of control-

RIVAL EMPIRES

ling Sudan. Since then it has been obsessed that perfidious Albion has been plotting to end its influence in Africa.

The ultimate proof was the 1990 invasion of Rwanda by Tutsis from Uganda, where they had lived as refugees for 30 years. The Tutsis invaded, speaking English and Swahili. Four years later, on taking pow-er, they confirmed French fears when they made Eng-lish the joint official lan-guage alongside French. Paris ignored a UN arms ban on Rwanda and supplied Hutus in Congo camps with weapons.

US Green Berets trained Tutsi soldiers, who two years later stormed the camps and killed many Hutus, entrenching Hutu and French hatred of the Anglo-Saxons in Central

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Prozes said. Mr Hauhner and Ms Miller were on a two-week holiday.

Friends with a love of travel

parted by death

TWO of those caught up in the Ugandan forest kidnappings were triends who played for the same amateur football team. One survived; his teammate did not

As the parents of Gary Tap-penden spoke yesterday of their relief and prepared for his homecoming, relatives of Martin Friend were making arrangements to have his body repatriated.

The two, who lived less than two miles apart were forwards with Coney Rangers, in the Bromley and District league, in Kent. They met on a backpacking trip to Australia three years ago and, this year, put their careers on hold to travel round Africa.

Both sets of parents kept in close contact as they spent Tuesday waiting for news from Uganda. In the afternoon came confirmation that Mr Tappenden, 28, a quantity surveyor, was safe but Mr Friend, 24, was among the dead. His father, Ron, a former security manager, and mother Pauline, from Orpington, were too distressed to com-

ment yesterday. Martin Friend was a former deputy head boy of the Priory school, in Orpington. He com-pleted A levels in history, poli-

home to travel the world five

Yesierday, as his family and triends learnt of his death.

they said that Mr Roberts, 27, knew the risks of visiting dangerous areas but that he also

Mr Roberts, from Edinburgh, flew to Uganda last month to fulfil a lifelong am-

bition to track down the mountain gorillas in the Impen-

etrable Forest. Georgia Skene.

months ago.



Gary Tappenden: was forced to walk barefoot

ned the chance to go to univer-sity, instead travelling to Aus-

Andy Edwards, the school's sixth form director, said: "He was a very forceful young man, a strong person and a doer. What a waste. He was the kind of person that whatever he did he would have ex-

celled."
Mr Tappenden's parents,
Robert, 52, and Pearl, 49, from Bromley, described how their relief at having spoken to their son was mixed with grief for his travelling companion.

The apparent random na-ture of the killings added to the bewilderment of the bereaved. It was not clear why the Hutu rebels responsible for the deaths of eight hostagTappenden free.

His parents said they beheved he owed his life to Mark Ross, an American tour guide. Mr Tappenden said: The rebels wanted to take Gary with them and a Swiss girl, but Mark Ross could speak

said: "It was just awful. We were pacing up and down i didn't know what to do with myself. The hours of waiting were absolute agony. He came on the telephone and asked usif we had heard what had been going on. I was very emotional and shocked, especially after thinking what he had been through. He feared for his life." She said he had been robbed of all his possessions, including his spectacles, and forced to walk bare-footed.

their language and after he ne-

Mrs Tappenden, a nurse

Mr Tappenden's parents, Robert and Pearl, and his girlfriend, Karen Collie, yesterday. Mrs Tappenden said their son was saved by a tour guide gotiated with them, they eventually agreed to let Gary stay."

Speaking about Mr Friend's
death, Mr Tappenden said: "It is so unfair, he was a smashing lad. I can't express how deep our sympathies are for

The Foreign Office named

another victim as Joanne Cot-ton, from Essex. It is believed that she was a driver for Acacia Expeditions, one of the organisers of the trip. Five of the company's clients died and ten

Mark Avis, 27, who had joint British-New Zealand citi-

zenship survived the massacre but his New Zealand-born wife Rhonda, 27, was among the dead. The couple, who had been married for seven years, were on a round-the-world

trip before starting a family. Tributes were paid yesterday to the fourth British victim, Mark Lindgren, 23, by his former teachers and tutors at Haberdashers' Aske's school, in Elstree, Hertfordshire, and Nottingham University. Mr Lindgren, from St Albans, was about to begin a new job in the City. He achieved three A levels at A grade and came within

a few marks of achieving a first-class degree at Nottingham University, where he sat management studies with French. Professor Christine Ennew, deputy director of the university's business school, said: "We get a lot of good students but he stood out."



Hatr.

rooted: colonia STRUES:

a friend, said: "I'm sure he would have understood there was a certain element of risk and that appealed to him.
Steve lived life to the full,"
Raymond Laidlaw, who
had worked with Mr Roberts at the Miller Brothers electronics store in Edinburgh, said: "He was a young guy with itchy feet who wanted to do something with his life."

Mr Roberts's parents, who now live in Australia, were flying to Scotland yesterday to

BY GILLIAN HARRIS, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT STEVEN ROBERTS, one of the six tourists murdered in VICTIM the Ugandan jungle, had left

Traveller's lust

for adventure

be with their daughter, Lee-Ann, who lives in Aberdeen. Lee-Ann's fiance, Mark Wil-liams, said: 'We are all upset at everything that has hap-pened. The family is coming

Before giving up his job last October Mr Roberts had lived shared a flat with a friend and had been setting up a branch of Miller Brothers, an electronics firm based in Doncas-

ter, South Yorkshire. John Sadd, the company executive director, said: "The whole company is absolutely shocked. He was a character, a smashing chap. Everybody liked him..." He said that in his last months with the firm it became clear he had "a bee in his bonnet" about travel-

ling the world. Mr Roberts grew up in Dal-gety Bay, Fife, and attended Bo'ness Academy, West Lothian, where he was head boy.



Rob Hanbner and Susan Miller at their wedding in 1996

US couple were on third safari

By HANS GREIMEL

ROB HAUBNER, 48, and Susan Miller, 42, the only Americans killed, had first travelled to Africa together on their honeymoon. The married couple had returned to the rainforest in search of adventure and gorillas, only to be brutally

killed in the rebel kidnapping. Mr Haubner and Ms Miller had worked for Intel, a computer chip giant, since the mid-1980s and were based at Hillsboro, Oregun. He was the worldwide director of customer support; she was a sen-

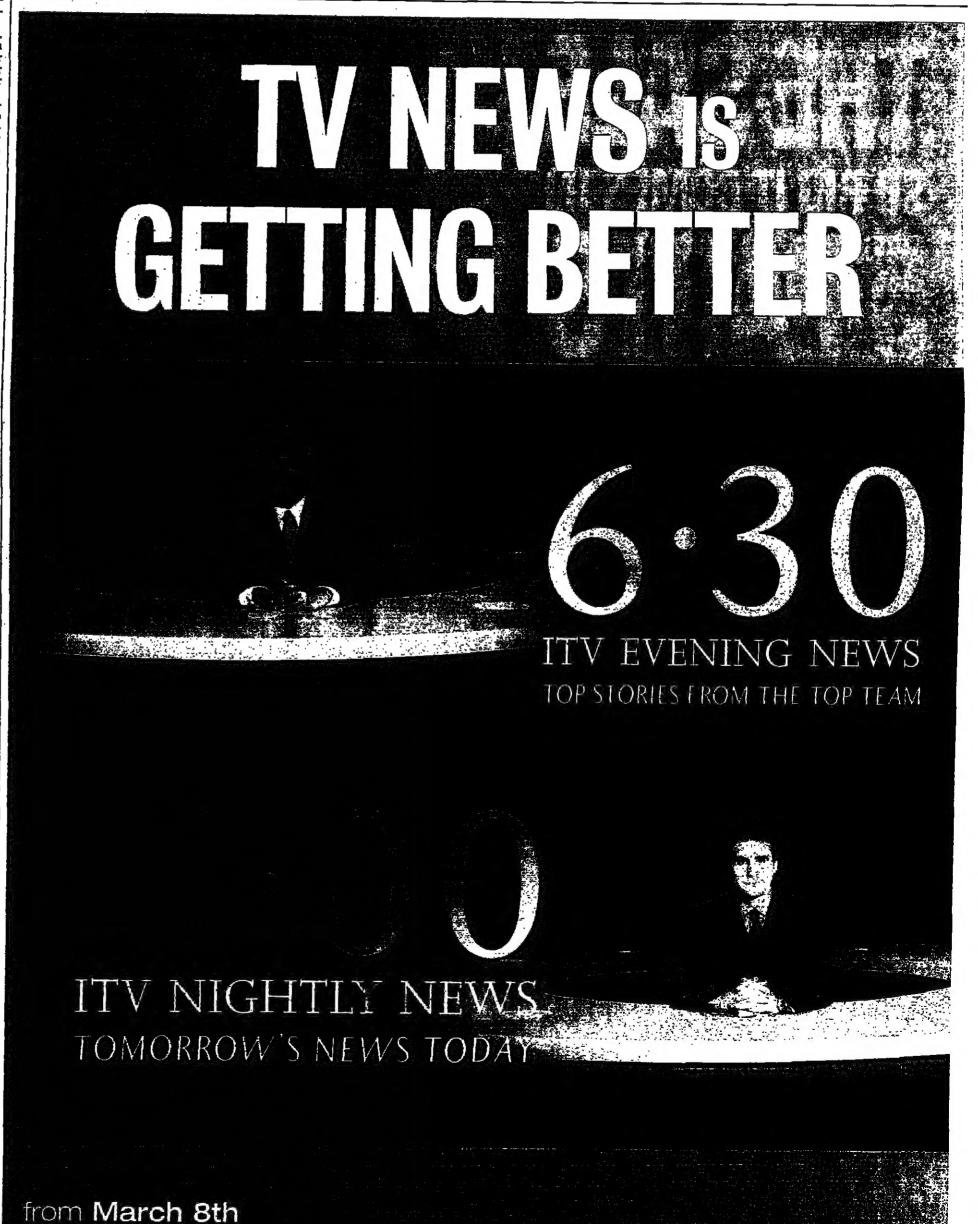
a for trade show manager. Mr Haubner was considerng retirement, according to Eric Pozzo, a friend and former colleague "His thought was, Anything beyond the age of 36, you really need to enjoy your life. Mr THE JET-SET LIFE

their third trip in as many years to Africa, with the goal of catching a glimpse of the

mountain gorillas. William Calder, a spokes-man for Intel, said: "They loved to travel around the world. We're shocked and

Nicky Laman, who lives next door to the couple's home, described them as healthy, active and handsome people who led a jet-set life of exotic holidays and overseas business trips. "They were a re-markable couple." he said. "It's a tragedy. I can't believe it

Intel said Mr Hauhner and Ms Miller were travelling with another married couple who worked for Intel. Susan Studd, 46, and Bob McLaurin. 44, of Portland, Oregon, They



Blair dismisses IRA excuses on disarming

By MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR made his bluntest call yet for IRA disarmament yesterday as Mo Mowlam conceded that next Wednesday's deadline for transferring power to Northern Ire-land would probably not be met. Sinn Fein responded by once

again ruling out disarmament and saying that "Unionists will have collapsed the agreement" if an executive is not es-tablished by March 10.

A new poll yesterday showed a majority of Union-

ists were now against the Good Friday accord, and that two thirds would oppose David Trimble, the First Minister, if he established an executive that included Sinn Fein without any IRA disarmament. With the peace process ap-

proaching its moment of great-est vulnerability, the Prime Minister backed Mr Trimble's demand for disarmament in a statement that Unionists had expected for some days. "People have got to know if they are itting down with people who have given up violence for good," Mr Blair said. "They can't negotiate, as I think John Hume once said, with a stack of guns under the table. It's as

simple as that."
Mr Blair brushed aside Sinn Fein's argument that decommissioning was impossi-ble because it would be tantamount to an IRA surrender. They can do it if they wish to do it." he said

A BBC Northern Ireland poll suggested that Mr Trimble had minimal scope for com-

promise. Unionist support for the accord had dropped from months in which 243 terrorist prisoners have been freed but no weapons decommissioned. Few believe the issue can be

resolved by Wednesday and Dr Mowlam, Northern Ireland Secretary, suggested progress was unlikely before late this month. Attention is now shifting to Washington, where President Clinton will hold meetings with party leaders during St Patrick's Day festivities. ☐ Two loyalist splinter groups have been added to the government list of banned terrorist organisations. The Orange Volunteers and the Red Hand Defenders have been responsible for more than 20 attacks on

Catholic premises recently.



THE chef Clarissa Dickson Wright travelled in style when she was installed yesterday as the first woman Rector of Aberdeen University (Gillian Harris writes). Miss Dickson Wright, half of the BBC's Two Fat Ladies. arrived astride a Triumph motorcycle and was carried shoulder-high by members of

the rugby team to the bar.

She immediately got to grips with one of the students' biggest beefs by

WAS £6275

Chef puts university food on a steep learning curve

it," Miss Dickson Wright said. She also intends to join the fight against tuasso mierios to join the right against ditition fees. "Students should at least be
enfitled to enjoy the educational proess. To have a millstone round your
neck at such a young age seems to be
totally wrong." she said.

Ms Dickson Wright's election followed the death of Allan MacCartney,
the deputy leader of the Scottish Na-

the deputy leader of the Scottish National Party.

promising to tackle culinary standards at the 500-year-old university, and rewarded those who had voted for her work and I am sure the university and with a recipe made from potato, cab- I will have some good dialogue about Irish warned of

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

child 'products'

CHILDREN planned by parents who use contraception are "unhappy and resentful" and destined to be trouble makers. the Archbishop of Dublin said yesterday. Dr Desmond Connell's comments provoked immediate outrage among many. people in Ireland, where family planning has been used since the 1970s.

He told students in a speech at Maynooth Roman Catholic University: "A profound alteration in the relationship between parent and child may result when the child is no long-

thereby be affected, creating a sense of consumer ownership as well as a new anxiety to win and retain the child's affec-tions. The child no longer be-longs to the family in a personal sense if it is radically a prod-

uct, rather than a person. "No child can be happy as a product. The child will find no meaning in a life produced by

Byrne, chairwoman of the National Women's Council, said

FAMILIES AT WAR

A churchman has called for legal reform to prevent cou-ples using children as weap-ons in acrimonious breakups (writes Paul Wilkinson).

er welcomed as a gift but produced as it were to order. "Parental attitudes would

technology." Tony O'Brien, chief execurive of the Irish Family Planning Association, said it was "terribly sad that in 1999 the archbishop is perpetuating such nonsense".

his comments were "unkind". Aldan O'Keeffe of Leaven, the support group for priests who have left the Church to

Stephen Lowe, the Archdeacon of Sheffield, who this month becomes Bishop of that past battlegrounds of money and property had been largely settled by legis lation, leaving children as tools by which warring part-

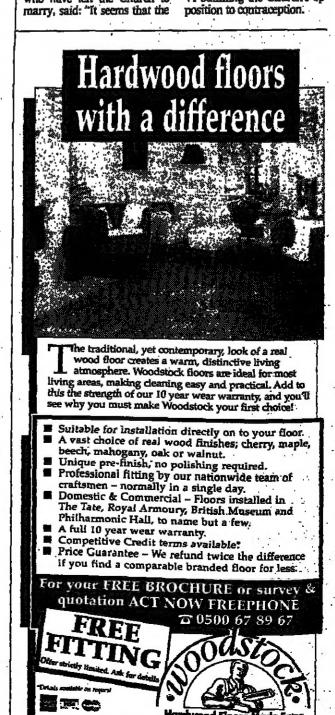
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ners hurt each other. partner can seek to stop the other from seeing them after a break-up. Or the child's mind can be poisoned with hate by one partner for the other. Language used by some partners towards the other can be quite extraordinary, damaging children for the rest of their lives."

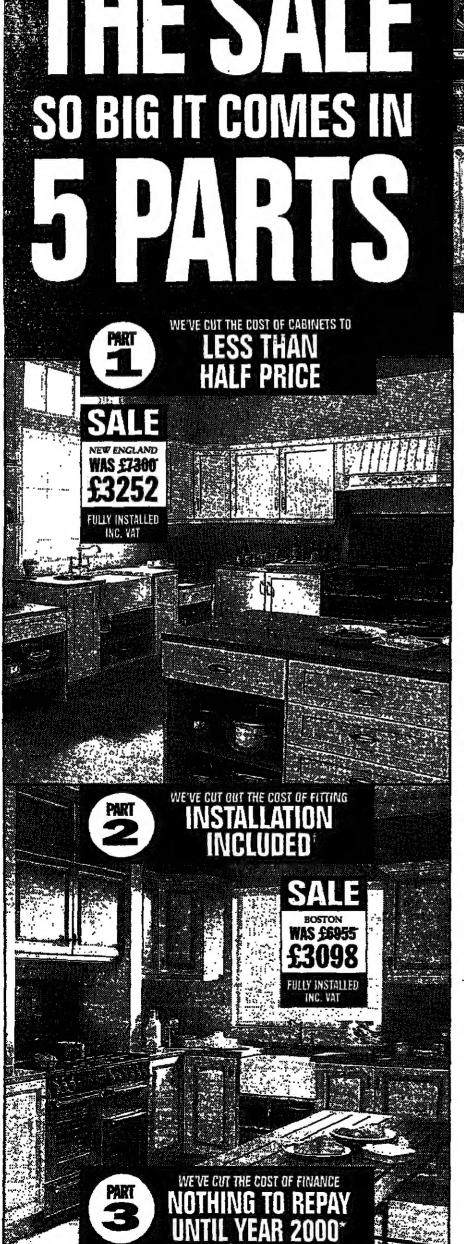
Catholic Church is averse to what most people are doing so maybe it is time for the public to demand that the leaders advocating this kind of nonsense are not kept in office any longer."

Dr Connell, 72, an arch conservative, made his comments at a meeting of the anti-abortion Life Society. The meeting was organised to commenorate Humanae Vitae the 1968 encyclical from Pone Paul VI outlining the Church's op-



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THE TIMES THURSDAY MARCH 4 1999 Islanders win right to fight for their home The Ilois people the unfortunate Ilois". Hitherto, he said, "life went serenely on for the Ilois people until 1965 when Great Britain

A REFUGEE evicted from his island home in the Indian Ocean by Britain 30 years ago was given permission yester-day to bring a High Court ac-tion against the Government. will have their eviction dispute Louis Bancoult is among 3,000 people seeking the right to return to the homes they lost heard in court, in the Chagos archipelago when Britain allowed America reports Michael to build defence installations on the Diego Garcia. In a test Horsnell case, he won permission from a judge to pursue his claim that the British Government

acted unlawfully.

and dumped here.

where he was forced into pov-

coult, 35, said: "We were up-

rooted from our motherland

where we were living in peace

must accept its responsibility

towards its citizens and put

right this terrible wrong. It is like David fighting Coliath

but I believe we can win in the

end. People without a country are like a tree without roots."

Mr Bancoult, an electrician who is married with three chil-

dren, was four when he accom-

panied his parents to Maur-

itius for his sister Noellie to

have medical treatment. The

family was prevented from re-turning by by the British au-thorities, who told them that

ships were no longer calling at

About 15 members of the

Chagos Refugees Group, of

which Mr Bancoult is chair-

man, celebrated their High

Court success with soft drinks,

and traditional songs and dances at his modest home in

the poor district of Cassis. As a

British Dependent Territory

citizen he receives legal aid for his court battle, and he hopes

the Chagos islands.

The British Government

to come to London, and meet the Foreign Secretary.

The Chagos islanders had arrived with few possessions in Mauritius, where unemploy-Speaking by telephone from Port Louis in Mauritius, to ment was high. Britain had made no provision for them, erty-stricken exile 1,200 miles from home in 1968, Mr Ban-Mr Bancoult said, "The plight of our people is bad. We do not have good access to education, most are unemployed, and there are many social problems. Justice has got to be done. We are desperate to go home." He was evicted from Peros Banhos where his pat-

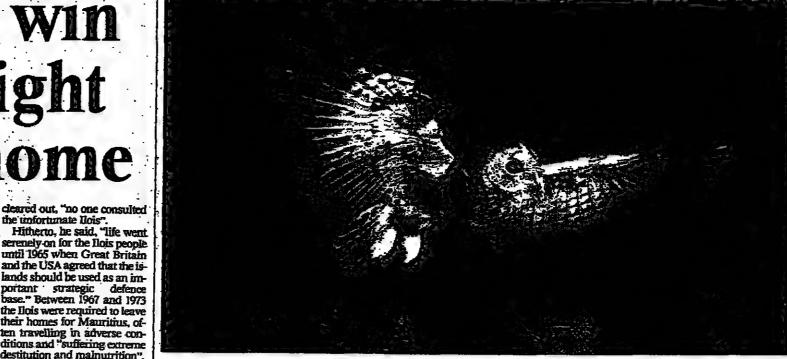
> grandparents are buried.
>
> Sydney Kentridge, QC, his counsel, claimed that the authorities rode roughshod over the human rights of the islanders, known as the Ilois.

ernal grandparents and great-

The application for leave to: seek judicial review had been opposed by the Government and HM Commissioner for the British Indian Ocean Territory. Philip Sales, for the Government, argued that the High Court in London had no jurisdiction and that the case should go to a colonial court.

After Mr Justice Scott Baker's ruling, Mr Bancoult's solicitor, Richard Gifford, sald outside court that the islanders wanted to return to their self-sufficient life of farming, fishing and labouring.

In his ruling, the judge said that when the islanders were



THE secrets of the silent swoop of the owl have been discovered by researchers who want to produce quieter aircraft (Nick Nuttall writes).

and the USA agreed that the is-

portant strategic defence base." Between 1967 and 1973

the Ilois were required to leave their homes for Mauritius, of-

ten travelling in adverse con-ditions and "suffering extreme

destitution and malnutrition".

They were permanently barred from their Chagos

homes under a 1971 Immig-

ration Ordinance introduced

by HM Commissioner for the

colony. The judge said the Ilois recognised that defence considerations limited their ability to

return to Diego Garcia itself, but were seeking the right to return to outlying islands. The Foreign Office said later

that it would be defending its

position "robustly" at a full

court hearing later this year.

Scientists at Southampton University and Nasa's Langley Research Center in Virginia found three key features on the wings of nature's stealth bomber. Most important, down on the feathers on the upper surface kills noise above two kiloHertz. Second, most birds' wings have sharp, clean edges

Owl holds clue to cutting jet noise

owl has a serrated edge, like a saw, on its primary feathers. This creates tiny, streamlined eddies as the wing moves. The third feature that reduces noise is the trailing edge of the

wings, likened to the fringe on a scarf. Without this, the airflow would create a sound like a flute, Geoffrey Lilley, an acoustics expert and professor emeritus at Southampton University, said. "The owl is not

really silent but the major noise generated is very low frequency," Professor Lilley said yesterday. "The little prey the owl feeds on has good hearing in frequencies over two kilo-Hertz. If the owl makes any noise above this, the prey runs away. If we understand what nature does then perhaps we can adapt this to reduce the

noise of aircraft." The findings will be presented to an American Acoustical Society meeting this month.

Mother's voice helps to fatten farm stock

BY NICK NUTTALL TECHNOLOGY POPPERONNENT

PLAYING back the clucks of mother hens to newborn chicks could help to boost farm profits, scientists claim. Researchers have found that recordings of the sounds made by mothers around feeding

time increase the appetites of young farmyard animals. In tests chicks played feeding calls grew up to 20 per cent faster in the first three weeks. Turkey chicks respond similarly as do piglets who hear a sow's feeding time grunts.

Sows normally suckle once an hour. The scientists managed to make the piglets demand feeding every 50 min-utes, boosting their weight gain in the first few weeks of

The work, reported in New Scientist, has been done by re-searchers at the Atlantic Veterinary College at the University of Prince Edward Island in Canada. Luis Bate, one of the researchers, said that the animals responded only to sounds made by mothers around feeding time

Schools cut out to be at the top

BY HANNAH BETTS

A SCHOOL that has amassed \$5,000 tokens in the *Times* Free Books for Schools scheme welcomed a special visitor from darkest Peru yesterday. HarperCollins, the publish-

er that is donating books for the scheme, was so impressed by Whitegate Primary School, Nottinghamshire, that it sent Paddington Bear to deliver its Whitegate is one of the enter-

prising schools that have harnessed community support to collect more than 30,000 tokens as the scheme enters its third month. Pubs and newsagents have

joined Whitegate's parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts in rallying behind the school's campaign. As a result, pupils turn up with sackfuls of okens every day.

Sandwell County Primary School in Leicestershire attributes its 30,000-plus tokens to a campaign run with military precision. Children received orders to spend halfterm searching for tokens and more than 8,000 were collected

At RAF Stammore, a nearby airbase, a stop-and-search policy is being run on Sandwell's BOOKS SCHOOLS

behalf. The husband of one of the school's support staff "confiscates" tokens from all newspaper-carrying personnel as they pass through the main

have registered to date, a total of more than 30,000.

☐ If you have a story about how your school is 0171-895-9018 (office hours

☐ Today's token can be found

Of the one billion tokens available through the scheme. 11 million have been redeemed by the nation's schools so far. enough for 60,000 books. Eighty six per cent of the schools eligible for the scheme

Village postman is sent packing

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A FUGITIVE has occupied a remote community and driven out the local man in. uniform. In the wild west of Wales, it seems that the village of Wiseman's Bridge just isn't big enough for an aggressive pheasant and a frightened posiman.

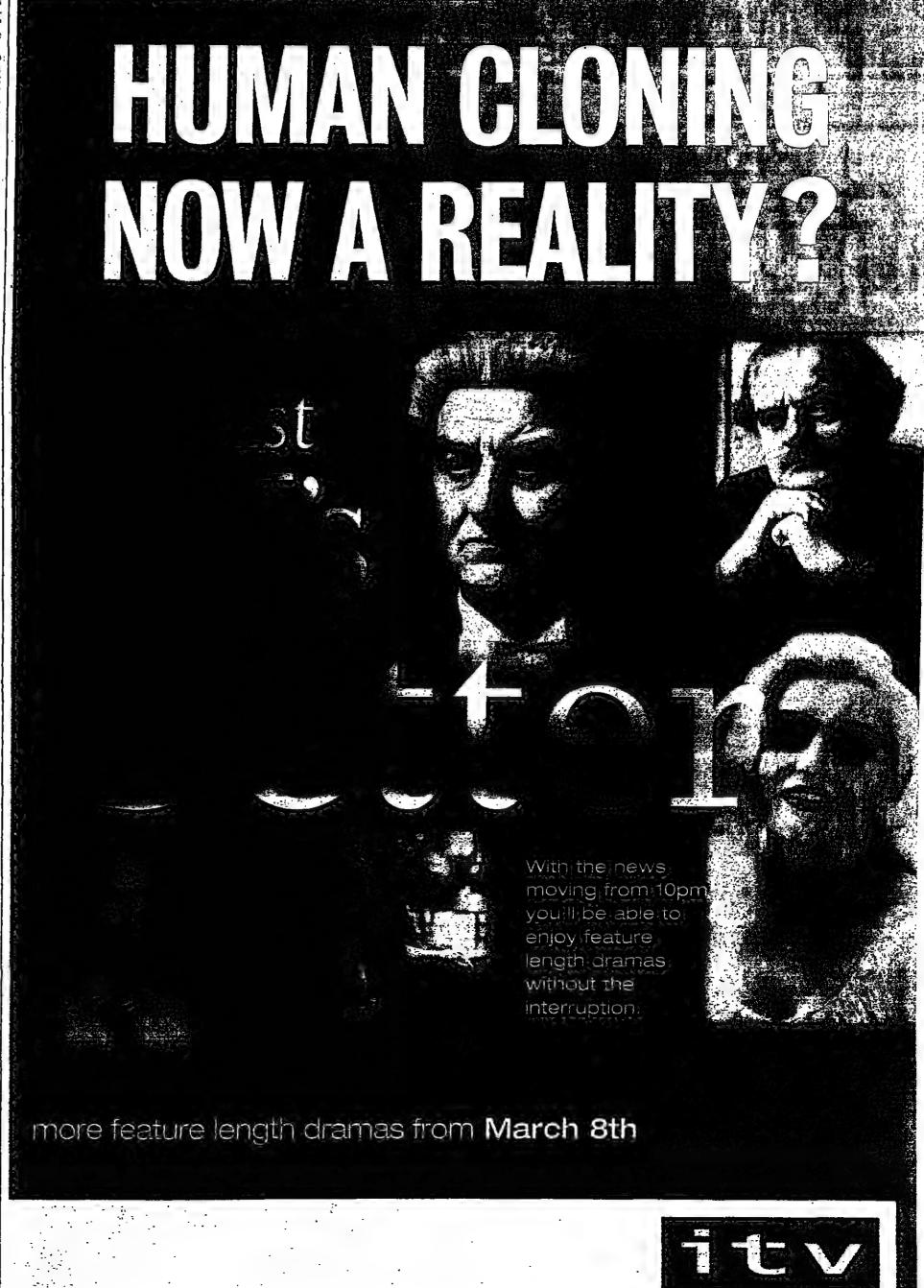
The pheasant escaped from a local hunt and settled on the village green last November. Local people named it Henry and say that it gets on well with everyone except the postman, Gerald Lloyd, 59. Every time he gets out of his van, the bird runs at him squawking and flapping.

Mr Lloyd is now refusing to make deliveries while the hird is free. The villagers are refusing to allow Henry to be shot or moved, so for ten days they have been making the 14 mile round trip to Temby to collect mail. June Gibbons, a community nurse, said: "Henry is a

friendly bird and wanders around the village for peo-ple to feed birn. He's been no trouble but whenever the post van goes past, Henry sits up on the hedge and flaps quite aggressively." Christine Sibery, one of the villagers who collects the mail, said: "Anyone would think it was a Rottweiler."

The Royal Mail has contacted the nearby Hean Castle Estate to demand that a gamekeeper take action. Mr Lloyd has admitted hitting the bird with a stick in self-defence, and other postmen are said to have been attacked. It is thought that the red van or the uniform

may be the problem. Val Bodden, a mail spokeswoman, said: "The pheasant has been chasing postmen and if it is shooed away it flies up and could cause damage to someone's eyes. We are not prepared to put our postmen at risk."





Tributes to 'the best songstress'

day for Dusty Springfield, who was hailed as a pop icon for a generation. The singer died aged 59 on Tuesday night

Her hits on both sides of the longer suffering." Atlantic included I Only Want

Robin Young on how music world will remember Dusty Springfield

self, and You Don't Have To Say You Love Me. Lulu, a con-temporary singer and a close Neil Tennant and Chris died aged 59 on Tuesday night say You Love Me. Lunu, a coar at her home in Henley-on-temporary singer and a close temporary singer s four-year battle with breast at her loss, but at the same whose collaboration with Miss time relieved that she is no Springfield brought her back

song What Have I Done To Deserve This? She hadn't re-corded for several years but as soon as she arrived in the stuknew that the greatest female are proud to have been a small The nightclub owner Peter

dio and began to sing, we singer Britain has ever pro-duced was still on brilliant form. We were in awe of her.

rating and soulful singer, in-credibly intelligent at phrasing a song, painstakingly building it up to a thrilling climax. She was also warm and funny. We part of her fabulous career."

Stringfellow, who signed Miss Springfield for his Hippodrome label in the mid-1980s. said: "In my opinion, hers was the original Girl Power. She was a very strong character throughout her career and no one pushed her around. If you were ever to give out a crown for the Queen of Pop in Great Britain, it would be to her."

Three long-serving Radio 2 Tamla Motown to Britain, presenters paid tribute to Miss which is something that has also been overlooked ways been overlooked. singers the country has ever produced. Ken Bruce called her "possibly the finest female soul voice to come out of Britain", adding: "She was highly solo, said: "I have her to thank appreciated in the U.S. where for all my life in pop. To me she was right up there with the she was the best female singer this country every produced."

Johnnie Walker said: "She really was one of the great Brit-

ish singers. She could do anything from a beautiful ballad to making a really good soul record like Dusty in Memphis. It is very sad that we have lost her. She will be greatly missed." Brian Matthew added: "She was always as demanding of herself as of those around her that she worked

Mike Gill, who worked with the singer for nearly 32 years, first as her press agent and then looking after her back cat-alogue, said: "She was very warm and great fun to be with. Hers was the greatest voice this country. She championed a new type of music in the early Sixties when she brought Tamla Motown to Britain,

Mike Hurst, the third member of the folk group The Springfields until Dusty and her brother Tom decided to go

Emotional diva who put the soul into pop

BY DAYLD SINCLAIR POP CRITIC

IN THE 1960s, before irony and cool detachment became essential accountements for What To Do With Myself, In the Middle of Nowhere, Going Back and I Close My Eyes and any budding star, Dusty Springfield was a pop diva in the traditional sense — vil rant, emotional and, with her trademark blond boutfant hair and black eye shadow, glamorous.

Although best known as the queen of the dramatic ballad. Springfield was really the first British soul singer. Whether gracefully negotiating the high, lilting folk refrain of the Springfield's 1962 hit Island of Dreams or belting out the Motown-influenced tune of her first solo hit. I Only Want To Be With You, she brought authority and a surprising depth of feeling to lyrics notable for their simplicity of ex-pression Indeed, the words of her biggest hit, You Don't Have To Say You Lave Me, were penned by her manager in ten minutes on the back of an envelope.

Once established, she released a string of hits that became part of the fabric of British pop: I Just Don't Know

Count To Ten, among many

However, it was n 1969 that she recorded with American soul musicians, an experience that resulted in her finest album, Dusty in Mem-phis, from which her last and best major hit, Son of a

Preacher Man, was taken. Her influence, both as a singer and as a discreet gay icon, was manifest in the work of later performers, including Pet Shop Boys, with whom Springfield collaborated on the 1987 hit What Have I Done To Deserve This, and Annie Lennox, who enjoyed her first taste of pop stardom in 1979 as a member of The Tourists singing a version of I Only Want To Be With You.

As much a part of 1960s Brit-ain as the miniskirt and Mary Quant, Springfield made an indelible mark on a pop industry still finding its feet, and leaves behind a legacy of hits that is outstanding by any

Sailor got drunk flying club class

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE EDITOR

A SAILOR who has been dismissed for being drunk and abusive on a commercial flight home from Iceland was travelling business class, courtesy of the Royal Navy.

Lewis Lingard-Lane a 25-year-old operator maintainer from HMS Gloucester, a Type 42 destroyer, took advantage of a perk available to all ranks who need to fly commercial when on duty: they can book club class if the flight lasts longer than two and a half hours

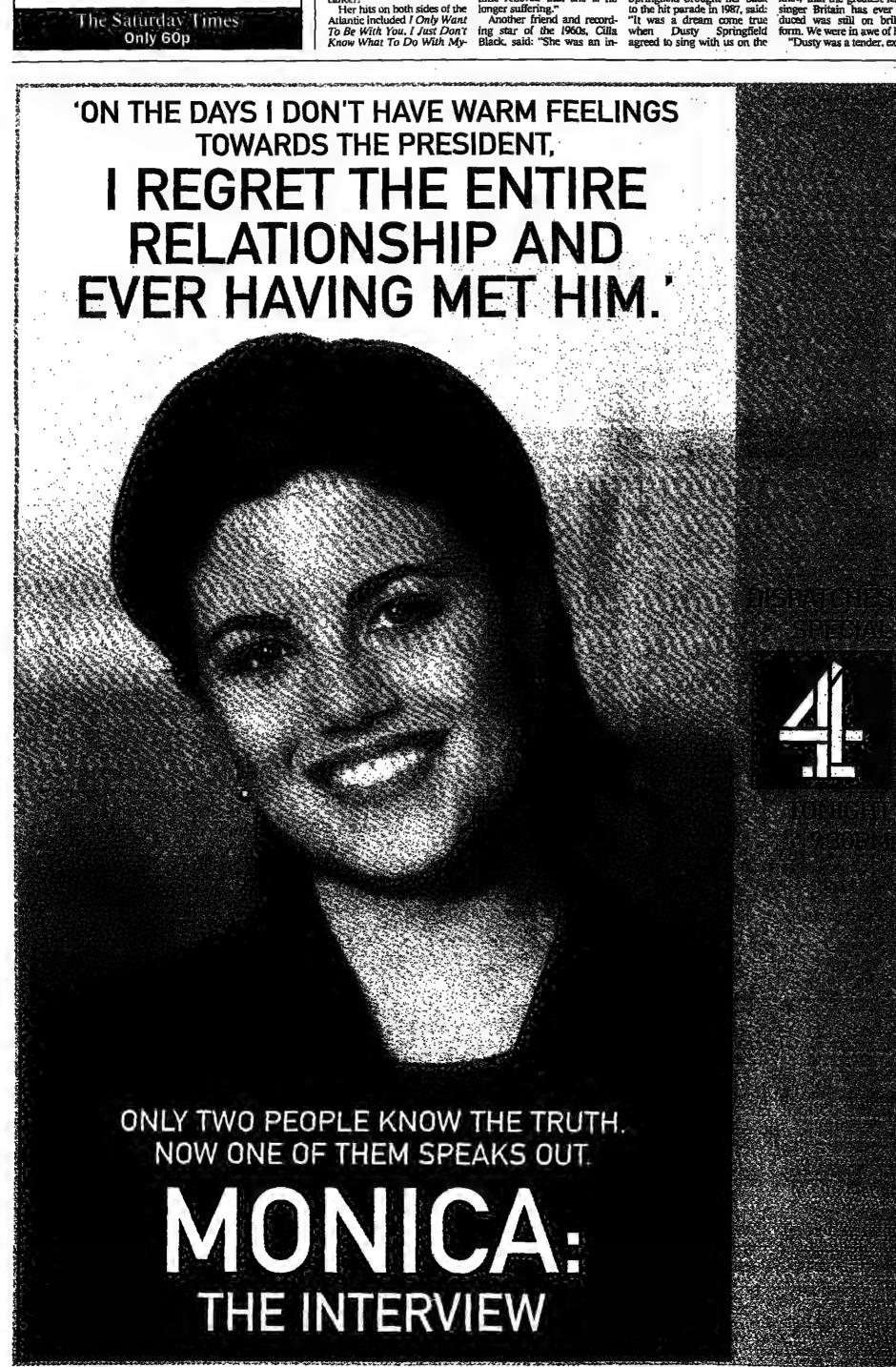
Lingard-Lane, who pleaded guilty at a court martial in Portsmouth to two charges of being drunk and being insubordinate to a senior officer, helped himself to two Irish cream whiskies, two whisky mixers and a vodka and orange while sitting in a business class VIP lounge at Reykjavik airport. Later, from his club class seat on the Icelandair plane, he argued with a stewardess and repeatedly

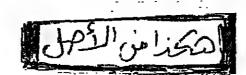
swore at a senior officer. Yesterday a Royal Navy spokesman explained that the rule allowing all ranks to travel business class had been introduced to ensure that person- omy fares."

nel could "continue to work during the flight and be effective on arrival". Whenever possible, the spokesman said, personnel returning home from a tour of duty would use RAF trooper aircraft. But if one was not available, all personnel "ir-respective of rank" were allowed to travel business class. provided it was a journey of more than two and a half

hours. The same rule applied to the Army and the RAF. Lingard-Lane, of Stour-bridge, West Midlands, had completed his tour of duty on HMS Gloucester and was booked business class on a civilian airliner because there was no RAF transport available. The cheapest flight on Icelandair from Reykjavik to Heathrow is currently £198 for a return economy fare. This compares with a return business class fare of £657. A oneway fare would be £498. whether business or economy

The Navy spokesman said that the Ministry of Defence had arranged special concessionary rates with airlines. "So it's wrong to compare normal club class rates with econ-





Drug-tak impossil stop at r



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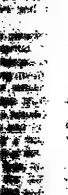
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p - 17 5 2 3

PER SE





ister and soapbox evangelist, be-lieved that socialism was the King-dom of God, so far as politics and

economics would allow, his memo-

rial service at Westminster Abbey

His socialism was the practical ex-

pression of the Christian faith, and

he maintained to the end that the

Labour Party should be fundamen-

But Lord Soper, who died in De-

cember aged 95, was decidedly Old

Labour, if the figures from a past so-

cialist age peppering the congrega-tion were anything to go by. Many are now ennobled, but they used to

be known as Mary Wilson, Bar-hara Castle, Jim Callaghan, Shirley

Williams and Len Murray, one-

time general secretary of the TUC. Most prominent, and still deter-minedly uncanobled, was Tony

was told yesterday.

packed abbey.

In praise of the soapbox socialist

Alan Hamilton hears tributes paid in memory of the witty, charismatic and highly unconventional Lord Soper Benn, who added to the readings from St. Matthew and Philippians one from Tribune, the left-wing

weekly to which Lord Soper was a

regular contributor. In a world of whirling weathercocks, Lord Soper was a signpost, Mr Benn said. A familiar figure, even at a great age, in long black cassock bound with a leather belt, Lord Soper was most at home on his soapbox in tally socialist. For him, capitalism was the creed of the individual, the Rev Peter Stephens, President of the Methodist Conference, told a front of a crowd at Speak-er's Corner or Tower Hill, the Rev Dr Colin Morris, 2 former head of BBC religious affairs, said in a sermon. "They were his con-stituency, his parish, his ex-tended family, and he gave them everything he had."

Dr Morris said: "Donald was a Christian because he believed it to be true that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself. He was a socialist because he according to his ability, to each ac-

cording to his need must be the master idea behind civilised society. And he was a pacifist because he believed it to be true that peacemakers shall be called the children of

Lord Soper, a tireless campaigner against war, had been asked at

The Speaker's Corner crowd were his constituency, his parish, his extended family, and he gave them all he had?

> the height of the Cold War what he would do if the Russians invaded Britain. "Make them a cup of tea," he had replied.

He was a man of immense ability, charisma and style. "He could have been anything, but he only wanted to be one thing: not a prince of the church, a political leader or a distinguished academic - just one of John Wesley's preachers."

المكذا من الأجل

Lord Soper had sided with the miners during the General Strike, had destroyed Oswald Mosley in

debate at the Cambridge Union, and had seen abject poverty as a young minis-ter in the Old Kent Road. According to Dr Morris, he was a holy man but not

a solemn one. 'There are holy people whose faith is so austere, whose spirituality so intense, that one is almost intimidated by them. There was nothing forbidding about Donald. The word that always comes to

mind when I think of him is debonair - witty, gallant, courteous. He wasn't a conventional saint, he had too well a developed sense of the ri-diculous for that. And he had his faults, for which thank God, for

The state of the s

been unbearable otherwise."

Dr Morris said that Lord Soper made the Christian doctrine of redemption credible because he himself looked redeemed. He was articulate, witty, well fed. Indeed, he believed that if people were to pracise virtue they must first enjoy the encouragement of food, clothes and shelter. But he was at heart a very simple man.

Cheered by the rousing hymns of Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts, the congegration heard the actor Co-lin Welland read some of Lord Soper's aphorisms, including: "Christi-anity would never have been seen on this planet if Jesus had taken up the sword."

Yet Lord Soper's favourite cartoon was the violent Tom and Jerry. Still, he did once say that the God in whom he believed was as much interested in human laughter as in hu-

Memorial service, page 24



Granddaughters Alice Blacker, left, and Catherine Jenkins

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Drug-taking is 'impossible to stop at raves'

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

DRUG-TAKING at organised fiscated chewing gum, used to rave parties cannot be preventsecurity, and casualties from overdose are therefore inevitawhat happened at one event.

In the first recorded study of rave casualties, the journal-Pre-hospital Immediate Care describes what happened at a do up their tops or hoods to party anended by 8,500 people cover their faces. This is at Wembley Arena on New Year's Eve, 1997.

About 200 staff were on hand to control the crowds, all: of whom were checked to make sure that they had tickets and were 18 or older. Anyone appearing to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs was refused entry.

Once through the door the ticket holders were directed to one of 50 search lines, where they were required to empty their pockets and remove their shoes and socks before being subjected to a full body search. Coats and bags were also searched. The performers were also searched and their bags and equipment thorough-

ly checked on entry. The security guards confiscated and destroyed 33 types of drug, including aspirin, Ecstasy and ampheramines. Anyone who claimed they needed drugs for a medical condition was sent to see the doctor on site for the story to be verified. The security guards also con-

combat teeth grinding, which fects of thousands spitting out ble, according to a report of gum would also have caused

major cleaning problems.

Vicks Vapo-rub was also prohibited as some ravers rub it . on their chests and faces then thought to produce a "high" and can relieve some of the effects of "coming-down" after taking Ecstasy. Nasai inhalers were not allowed because they can be used to hold and deliver

Despite all these precautions; the doctor, four nurses and 19 first-aiders on duty dealt with 79 "casualties" - including 20 staff who developed severe headaches. Of the remainder, drugs were a contrib-uting factor in 34 cases.

The commonest misused drugs were ampheramines followed by Ecstasy and cocaine. There was only a small amount of heroin and even less cannabis. Pro-plus, a concentrated caffeine, was also being taken in combination.

The use of drugs was probably much more widespread, since the medical team dealt only with those who collapsed."Either drugs were being taken before entry or they were undetected by the search procedure," the report says. .

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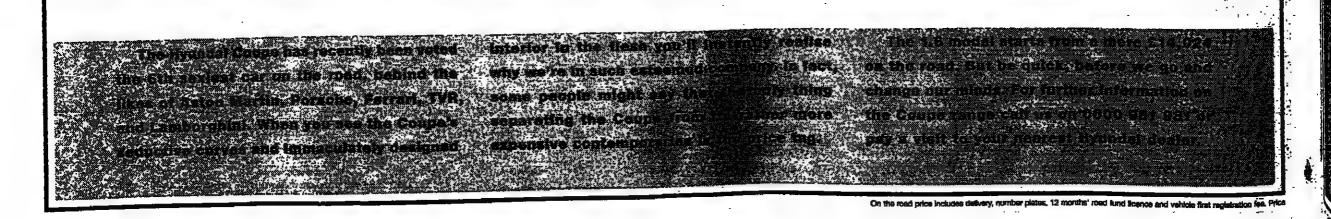
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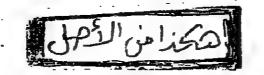
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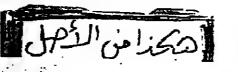


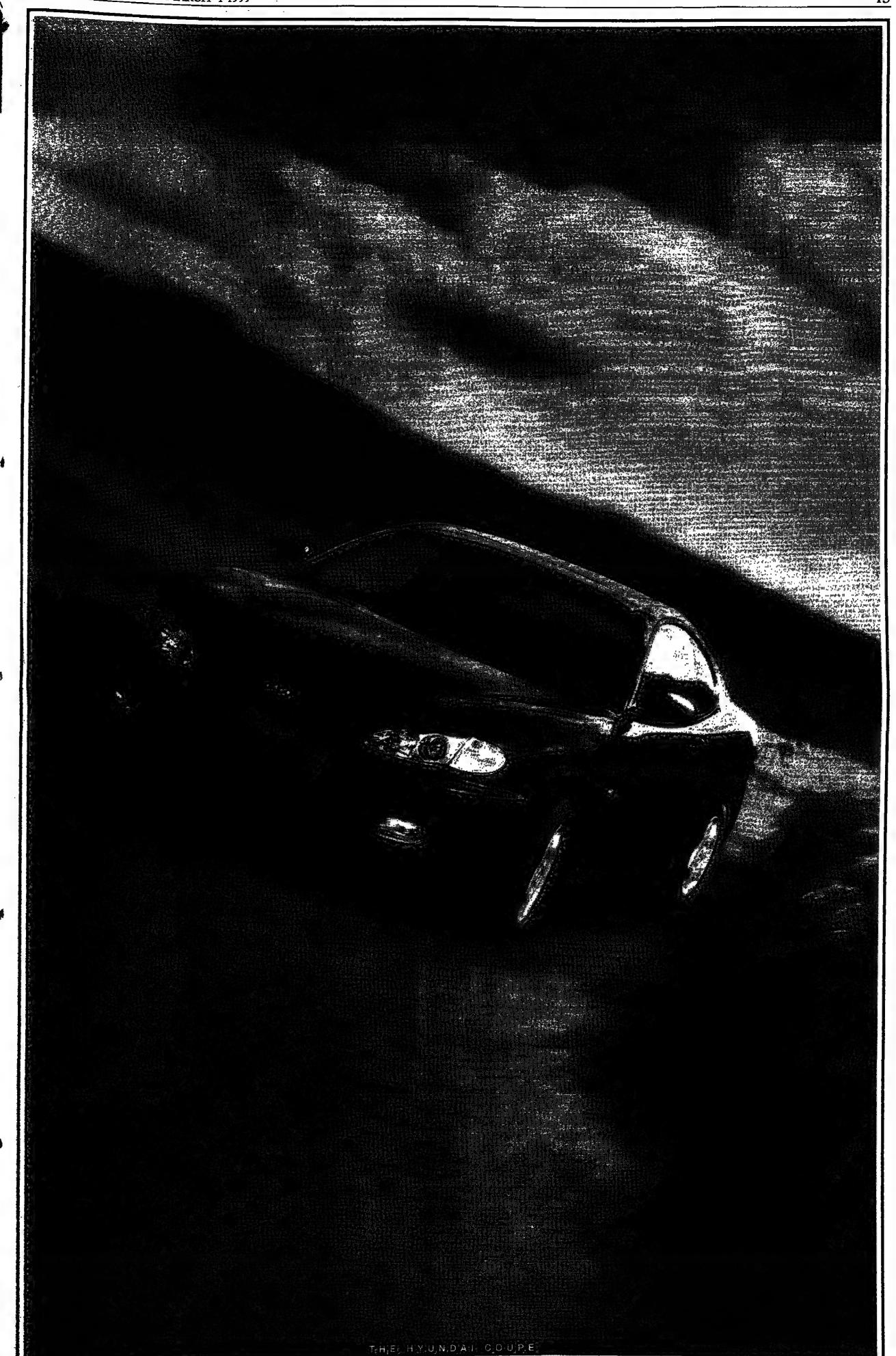
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Santer

poised to

turn his

back on

Cresson

FROM CHARLES BREMNER

JACQUES SANTER PIESI-

dent of the European Commis-

sion, yesterday set the scene

for an attempt to oust Edith

Cresson, the sleaze embroiled

French Commissioner, and

other members of his team if

their conduct is faulted by a

high-level inquiry

For the first time, Mr Santer
dropped his public support for

commissioners who are in the sights of outside investigators,

due to report on March 15.

Mme Cresson, a former

French Socialist Prime Minis-

ter, has borne the brunt of

charges by the European Par-liament that she engaged in cromyism and other shady

Launching a new code of

conduct to enforce the integri-

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British troops faced Kosovo clash

Force was ready to rescue monitors from the Serbs, writes Michael Evans in Petrovec, Macedonia

BRITISH troops were within minutes of moving into Kos-But the Serb decision to let the minutes of moving into Kosovo as a lighting unit, backed by combat aircraft and helicopters, after 21 international monitors were detained by Serb forces, it emerged vesterday.

Nearly 300 soldiers from the Ist Bantalion King's Own Royal Border Regiment, part of the Nato "extraction force" based in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, were ordered to launch what would have been the first mission inside Kosovo since the 2.300man, French-led rescue unit became fully operational on January 15.

The 21 monitors, including several Britons, from the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) verification mission. were detained by the Serbs at the end of last week as they tried to enter the Yugoslav province from Macedonia.

After a 24-hour stand-off during which the monitors locked themselves in their Land Rovers, with armed soldiers surrounding them, the



monitors into Kosovo came only after Nato warned Belgrade that a heavily armed extraction force was on standby to move into the province.

Yesterday, at Petrovec. a Macedonian airbase six miles from the Kosovo border used by the extraction force, British officers disclosed that a fullscale rescue operation had been put into action, authorised by General Wesley Clark, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

A heavily armed force, con-

sisting of 280 soldiers from the King's Own Royal Border Regiment in 21 Warrior armoured combat vehicles, and a simi-lar-sized Italian infantry company backed by six Mangusta attack helicopters, was waiting for the signal to go.

A spokesman for the British regiment said: "We were on the point of leaving for the border, with literally minutes to go, when word came back that the monitors had been released." Nato had assigned fighter aircraft from bases in Italy to provide air support.

Officers from the king's Own Royal Border Regiment said the plan had been to seize the high ground round the border town of Deneral Jankovic, where the monitors were being held, and make it clear to the Serbs that action would be taken unless the 21 people were released, "There was no question of us going in with all guns blazing, but we would



British soldiers — members of Nato's "extraction force" — at their base in Krivolak in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on Twesday

have gone as a deterrent force to help bring the situation under control." one officer said. However, they were fully prepared for action. By the

time the force was ready to

move, it was equipped with

Milan anti-tank weapons, mor-

tars and ammunition. The Warriors also had fully loaded 30mm cannon. The British troops ready for Kosovo action came from the Burma Company Group of the King's Own Royal Border Regiment. They were first alerted at 3pm last

Friday. The operation was called off at 7.45pm. The confrontation with the Serb border troops and military police began when they in-sisted on searching the OSCE vehicles. The Serbs were told

they had no right to obstruct

the monitoring team because it was protected by diplomatic immunity. Even after the monitors locked themselves into their Land Rovers, the Serbs tried to force the doors open with crowbars. "It was not a hostage situation, but they

were not allowed to go any where," a British officer said. Britain has 600 soldiers with the extraction force, including a large engineering and logistics element, which is part of the growing British

ty of the beleaguered Brussels executive, Mr Santer said the "right conclusions" must be drawn if the independent inquiry finds wrongdoing. "If any commissioners are per into question, they must conduct themselves as political figures and draw their condu-

This implied demand for resignation broke with Mr Santer's previous insistence on the "collegiality" of the Commission, the principle under which all 20 members are supposed to share equal responsibility.

In a sign of the bad blood among the top Eurocrass, Mime Cresson struck back last

night, saying she had ho intention of resigning and found it incredible that the President could be about to ertison her. The outspoken Commissioner, who is in charge of education and science, views herself as a scapegoat and a victim of German-inspired po-

litical machinations... Given Mme Cresson's deliance, the scene is being set for a messy political battle involv-ing the French Government in the event of a negative report by the inquiry.

Cook's think tank will reassess 'ethical' foreign policy

new government-sponsored think tank launched yesterday is to take a hard look at Robin Cook's vaunted "ethical foreign policy" to see whether it is

The Foreign Policy Centre, set up by Tony Blair and Mr Cook to bring new thinking to British diplomacy. has identified this area of Labour policy as one that most urgently needs re-examination. The policy has been criticised as ineffectual and self-defeating, and has been blamed by critics for the muddle in the arms to Sierra Leone

The strategy is not to leave diplomacy to diplomats alone, writes Michael Binyon

The independently funded centre will initially be run on a shoestring. with a director and ten researchers. Mark Leonard, best known for his proposals to rebrand Britaindubbed "cool Britannia" - and for the Demos pamphlet on the monarchy, was appointed director in December with a remit to broaden public debate on foreign policy, rethink its goals, underline its links to issues such as crime, drugs and

jobs, and bring a wider group of people into decision-making. Ethi-cal foreign policy was chosen as one of the first research projects.

Mr Leonard said it was looked at

simply in terms of arms exports and military help for repressive regimes. 'It should not be a bolt-on issue. This should run through every aspect of foreign policy." He said decisions were too often taken simply on the basis of whether they were in the national interest. There was none of the debate or constraints that surrounded domestic

He identified four tests by which foreign policy should be measured: did it have public support; was it in line with the Government's aims; was it effective; and did it meet Labour's ideological goal and chime in with the Government's values.

ther issues where the centre wants new thinking independent of the diplomatic service or the Royal Institute for International Affairs are the future of the Commonwealth, Internet regulation, teaching foreign policy in schools, new missions for Europe, democratising diplomacy, global corporate citizenship and a re-examination of such concepts as sovereignty, power, Britishness, the na-

tional interests and a "just" war. The new centre is likely to run into opposition from diplomats, who might see its goals as naive and its methods as amateur. It will make wide use of focus groups, opinion polls and field work, and wants to talk to polluters and ecowarriors, regimes and rebels, diaspora communities and the coun-

tries from which they come. It says there is little domestic check on bad foreign policy because the public is not involved in the debate. But the Government gets blamed when things go wrong, and scandals such as the Pergau dam and the arms-to-Iraq affair can become a political minefield.

"Foreign policy affects everything in our lives," Mr Leonard said. "It is too important to be left to diplomats alone — every person, company and charity has a duly to get involved. We need totally to rethink what foreign policy is and how we



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Jackal denies links to Castro

Paris: Carlos the Jackal has a time when he was the ed to the US, said that Carlos written to the French press world's most feared terrorist. written to the French press from his prison cell at La Santé to deny that his terrorist activities had been financed by the Cuban leader, Fidel Castro (Adam Sage writes).

His letter comes after reports that Cuba had given him passports, money and arms at

Holocaust

museums

oppose

memorial

FROM ROGER BOYES

THE directors of seven concen-

tration camp museums rebelled yesterday against the

German Government's plan

to construct a Holocaust Memorial in the centre of Berlin.

Their opposition was timed

to coincide with the beginning of a parliamentary inquiry into how a memorial to mur-

dered European Jews should be designed. In an open letter, they said: "Parliament is fac-

ing a fundamental decision -it is about how the Holocaust

should be anchored in the cul-

Peter Eisenman, an Ameri-

can architect, seemed to have

the edge over other entries

with a plan for some 4,000

large stones laid out like a topsy-turvy graveyard. The Social

Democrat Government, how-ever, had doubts, above all about the scale of the memori-

al, and Michael Naumann,

the Culture Minister. initiated

a compromise plant around 2,500 stones should form the artistic core and flanking one

side of it should be a Holo-

caust museum. The museum,

he said, would house a million

books about German crimes

in the war as well as interactive tools for schoolchildren.

But the directors of Belsen.

Buchenwald, Dachau, Dora

Neuengamme. Ravensbrück and Sachsenhausen called on

MPs to ditch the plan, saying resources should be spent on

the original camps so that visi-

mrs could see the real site of

the horror rather than an artis-

tic representation.

tural memory of Germany."

Last week a former Cuban Interior Ministry official told the French secret service that

Carlos, whose real name is llich Ramirez Sanchez, had received logistical support from President Castro. Juan Anto-

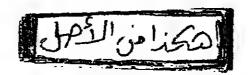
Señor Rodríguez was questioned after the French authorities were asked to investigate Señor Castro for "international drug trafficking, kidnapping, torture and murder".

had been given help in fleeing French justice after staging an assassination in Paris in 1975.

nio Rodriguez, who has defectmessy confrontation MATRONAL RATES 5D No Gimmicks, No Games, Just simple KHINA 35p вома кема 12р savings ISBABI 150 on your JAVAN 160 phone bill. MALAYRIA 200 · Pay monthly by Direct Debit or Pre-Pay · No need to change your phone or phone number SINGAPORE 18D SOUTH AFRICA 310 J 151 - 3 THAILAND 400 What would you expect from the fastest growing telecoms carrier in the world? PRIMUS

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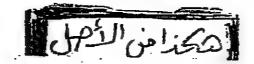
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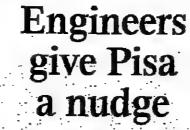
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Rome: The Leaning Tower of Pisa, sub-siding for centuries, has moved fraction-ally back towards the upright (Richard

Owen writes].

"The tower has shifted back towards the vertical by 1.5mm [0.06in] in under a month," said Carlo Viggiani, one of the engineers involved. "When you consider that it has been leaning southwards out of true at the rate of one millimetre a year, this is a major victory."

Il Messaggero, the Rome daily, de-clared: "A miracle on the Field of Mira-cles", referring to the medieval name for the meadow of unstable, saturated sandy soil on which the tower stands. In the face of protests from experts who think the "save the tower" plan will worsen the tilt, engineers have been re-moving soil on the side opposite the "lean" after attaching steel cables to the tower to stabilise it. "It worked," said a

bilant Signor Vîggi<u>anî</u>.

Referees 'bribed with Rolexes and callgirls'

Work begins on the latest attempt to straighten the Leaning Tower of Pisa

FOOTBALL referees overseeing big European matches expect to be supplied with £2,000-a-night callgirls, Rolex watches and fur coats for their wives, a French court heard yesterday. Top clubs are hap-py to comply with the de-mands in the hope of winning penalties and other decisions in their favour, the court in Bordeaux was told.

The allegations came at the end of a corruption trial involv-ing directors of the leading French club Les Girondins de Bordeaux, which was said to have built up a Fr50 million (£4.9 million)) shush fund to buy games. Manchester United were the victims of one of a series of transactions used by Bordeaux to feed its fund, it

The French club's former managing director, Didier Couecou, its general secretary. Herve Bizot, and a Croatian agent, Ljubomir Barin, face prison sentences of up to two years if found guilty of fraud.

Mr Barin said Bordeaux's chairman, Claude Bez, who died last year, decided in the 1980s that his club "needed to do what all the others do" and create a slush fund to curry favour with referees and lines-

"Afterwards, the referees started falling over themselves to come to Bordeaux," said Mr Barm, who was described by the prosecution as a "danger-

Adam Sage in Paris reports on a trial involving

a top French soccer club

The defendant said match-day officials refereeing Bor-deaux's biggest European games against the likes of Juventus and Dynamo Kiev were offered meals in the best French restaurants and rooms in the most hundrious hotels.

Acting on behalf of M Bez, he paid for Paris prostitutes who charged £2,000 a night. "We needed one for each of the four officials. When the refs were greedy, the girls stayed

Perhaps suffering from guilt, the officials would then ask Mr Barin to find presents for their wives. "They left with big suitcases full of small watches, perfumes and fur coats," Mr Barin said Real Madrid, which won the European Champions' League last year. always offered linesmen Rolex watches, which cost between £1,500 and £4,000. "Real win all their matches 4-0," he said.

The court was shown a document dated on the day of an important encounter between Bordeaux and Naples, refered by German officials. The

25,000DM + 25,000DM. Total 100.000DM = Fr342,000." M Bizot withdrew the sum in cash from the club's bank account that evening, the court

Questioned as witnesses on Tuesday, Joel Quiniou and Michel Vautrot, both experienced French referees, said they received "little symbolic presents" from clubs. "But in 15 years I have never known a delicate situation," said M Quiniou. M Bizot and M Couécou said they never tried to find out the destination of the money they handled."

"You don't know anything and you don't ask any ques-tions. That is your philosphy." said the prosecutor, Gilles Accomando. "That is right," replied M Couécou.

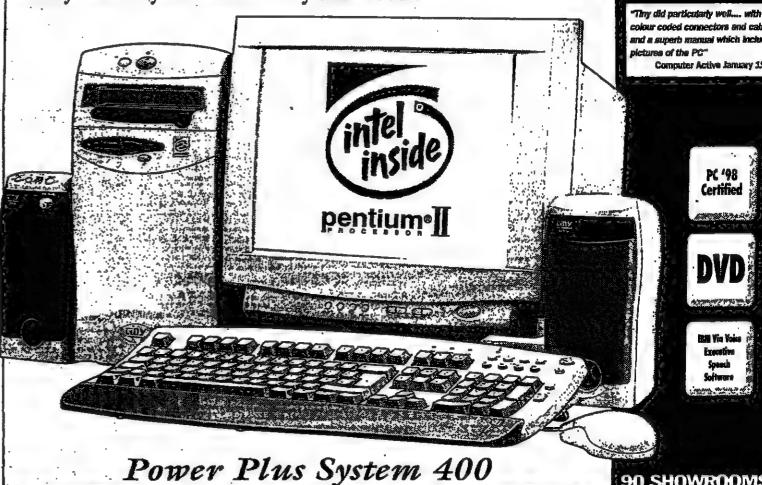
The court heard of the 1988 transfer of the Danish player Jesper Olsen from Manchester United to Bordeaux. An English version of the contract mentioned a transfer fee of £850,000. But a version in French, never shown to Manchester United, said the fee was Fr375,000. The difference was split between the player. his agent and Bordeaux's slush fund, the court heard.

"Weren't you worried about signing two versions of the same contract?", the prosecutor asked M. Couécou. "I signed a lot of things," he replied. The court will give its judgment later this month.

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WORLD IN BRIEF

Sharon joins call to quit Lebanon Jerusalem: In a controversial proposal, Ariel Sharon, the Is-

raeli Foreign Minister, yesterday urged Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, to postpone the May 17 general election and instead form an emergency government to pull troops out of Lebanon (Christopher Walker writes). It was immediately rejected, but the call by Mr Sharon, architect of the costly 1982 invasion of Lebanon, was not lost on many Israelis convinced that the occupation must end. The Labour Party de-clared that Mr Sharon had no confidence in Mr Netanyahu's ability to solve the issue, but it too rejected delaying the poll.

Cook nuclear pledge

Moscow: Robin Cook visited a nuclear reprocessing plant in Murmansk where Russia's fleet of disintegrating nuclear submarines is based (Anna Blundy writes). The Foreign Secretary is on a three-day visit to Russia during which he will meet Yevgeni Primakov, the Prime Minister, in Sochi on the Black Sea. He expressed Britain's willingness to help Russia dispose of its nuclear waste and pledged £3 million in aid.

'Shoot on sight' order

Jakarta: Indonesia sent 3,000 troops to restore order on Ambon island, where more than 200 people have died in fighting heween Muslims and Christians, and sacked the local police thief. General Wiranto, the armed forces' chief, ordered troops to shoot rioters on sight. In Jakarta, Muslim students called for a holy war against Christians on Ambon (Reuters)

Taleban wall of death

Kabul: Two men convicted of sodomy by a Taleban court in Alghanistan were publicly crushed to death when a tank pushed a mud wall on them in Kandahar. In Kabul, Taleban soldiers slashed men's leather jackets, which are prohibited, 25 are some music, video recorders, relevisions, cameras, brown paper bags and women's white socks. (AP/AFP)

Skiers cancel holidays

Innsbruck: Austrian ski resorts are recording cancellations of up to SO per cent after the avalanches that killed 38 people last week, officials said. Good snow conditions had brought a relatively good season to Austrian ski resorts before the disaster. A traditional festival organised in the Paznaut valley at the end of the skiing season has been cancelled. (AFP)

Gibraltar fury over gangster accusation

FROM GILES TREMLETT

OFFICIALS in Gibraltar yes terday denied claims that criminal gangs on the Rock have been prepared to turn their hands to murder and kidnapping as well as drug-run-

The allegations were made in a document handed to Tony Blair by José María Aznar, the Spanish Prime Minister, during a meeting in Germany last week. The document, leaked to El Mundo yes terday, provoked a vigorous denial from Peter Caruana, Chief Minister of Gibraltar.

He said that the allegations were part of a Spanish campaign to dirty the Rock's name "Many things have happened to me, but nobody has ever accused me of complicity or tolerance of kidnapping and murder."

Spanish diplomats con-

firmed that the note was the first part of what Spain claimed was a detailed investigation proving Gibraltar's role in organised crime. They said a second part of the report was being prepared and would be sent to London. The note handed to Mr Blair said Gibraltar's smugglers had turned from tobacco and small quantities of hashish to large drug shipments. ☐ La Linea: About 5,000 Spaniards from La Linea on the border with Gibraltar demonstrated yesterday for the lifting of restrictions that have affected 3,000 of them who work on the Rock (Domimque Searle writes).

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Millions see last act of the Monica soap

AFTER days of leaks about President Clinton's sex drive, the despondency that nearly drove Monica Lewinsky to jump to her death and her hatred for Linda Tripp, Americans finally settled down to watch the Full Monica last

night.
There was a sense that their national soap opera might be fashionable phrase has it. reaching closure, as Ms Lewinsky told all to Barbara Walters, the grande dame of American television agony aunts.

ABC television complained that one set of leaks in the New York Daily News came from a tape that was "illegally ob-tained", but the network did not seem too worried about losing viewers because it promptly released excerpts of

its own.

ABC also raised the price fivefold for its 30-second televiadvertisements, \$800,000 (£500,000), and was hoping to attract an audience approaching the 62 million who tuned in for Oprah Win-

We were sex soulmates, Lewinsky boasts. Ian Brodie in Washington and Carol Midgley report

son six years ago. This was the first time that Ms Lewinsky, 25, had talked outside the boundaries of the legal system about the sexand-lies scandal that led to Mr Clinton's impeachment trial over their 11 trysts in the corridor and private study leading from the Oval Office, plus their intimate telephone chats

over 18 months. By Ms Lewinsky's account. there was a very intense sexual attraction between them from the beginning when she flashed her thong underwear to catch his attention, an act she described as a "small,

LINKS The Jon Snow interview on Channel 4,

frey's chat with Michael Jack- subtle, flirtatious gesture". The chemistry began with their first kiss: "We instantly felt very familiar and very comfortable with each other and it was amazing. He's a

> She described Mr Clinton as "very sensual man" who, with his religious upbringing, struggled with his sensuality because he did not think it was

> 'I think he tries to hold himself back and then he can't any more because it's an energy you can't ignore," she said. The two of them were, as she put it, "sexual soulmates". When Ms Walters asked if Mr Clinton did things to make

her "happy and content". Ms Lewinsky answered curtly: Ms Walters asked about the time the President was on the

telephone discussing Bosnia while receiving oral sex. Ms Lewinsky admitted: "The truth is, there's an element of excitement and a little bit of danger involved."

When Ms Lewinsky accused Mr Clinton of treating her like a sex object, he broke down in tears: "He told me he never wanted me to feel bad and that's not what this relationship was about." She told him she loved him

and he said: "That means a lot to me" - but never said he loved her, even though there were times she thought he felt the same way by how he held and touched her. Then there was the book of

love poems by Walt Whitman that he gave her. She looked taken aback when Ms Walters told her that Mr Clinton gave the same book to his wife Hillary soon after they met.

Ms Lewinsky thought often of the First Lady, but never imagined the affair would be exposed. In apologising to Mrs Clinton and her daughter Chelsea she said: "I wouldn't

Barbara Walters, left, with Monica Lewinsky who spoke candidly of her relationship with President Clinton

dream of asking them to

Ms Lewinsky, her raven hair pushed back, came across as bright and animated, her eyes sparkling. She was much videotaped evidence for the Senate impeachment trial. She admitted that the affair

had been a painful time, but insisted: "This was about a man and a woman - not a Presitalk, we would laugh, we would tell jokes." She added: "He was very tender with me,

very affectionate." Breaking up was hard. Mr Clinton tried several times to end the affair, causing the anguish that led Ms Lewinsky to confide in Ms Tripp when they worked logether at the Pentagon, both refugees from the White House. Their friend-ship is now in shreds. "I pity her and would hate to be her,"

Ms Lewinsky said. Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, barred Ms Lewinsky under the terms of her immunity agreement from discussing the treatment she received from his office.

But his ban, widely criticised, does not extend to Andrew Morton's book Monica's Story nor, apparently, to Jon Snows interview tonight on Channel 4.

The book discloses that she was so despondent over her treatment by Mr-Starr's prosecutors when they first accosted her in a suburban Washington hotel that she briefly considered jumping from the tenth-floor window in their

In the book Ms Lewinsky says that one of the prosecu-tors sold her she faced 27 years in prison for perjury if she refused to co-operate with their criminal investigation of Mr Clinton. She says: "I couldn't bear to go to jail. I

Mr Starr denies that his Ms Lewinsky, but the Justice

LONDON VISIT **建设于"**等企务工"

Department is looking into the

A new book alleges that Mr Chinton's telephone sex with ed by Mossad, the Israeli intel-! used by Israel to blackmail the President into calling off an FBI hunt for an Israeli mole allegedly installed in the White House.

The allegation appears in Gideon's Spies, a history of Mossad by Gordon Thomas, a the New York Post.

In the interview with Jon Snow, which has been sold to more than 30 countries, she explains how she became attracted to the President.

The situation was such that we found ourselves alone in a room together and we were small-talking," she says. "And I was very nervous and I remember thinking to myself, Well, this is your chance, so you better tell him that you're interested, otherwise he's not going to know what to do.

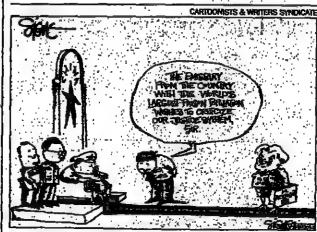
"So I told him that I had a crush on him and we went into his back office and had our first private conversation and it was the first time he kissed

She adds: "This has been a humiliating, violating, fright-ening experience. Not only for me, but for all those close to me as well. For my parents, for my friends. I had documents that had been deleted on my computer that were meant for no one else's eyes to not only be retrieved but print-

My innermost thoughts intimate, private moments between two people — being discussed not only by myself but by others all over the world, .

day after day. it's disgusting." The Starr report quoted Ms Lewinsky as saying that Mr Clinton did tell her that he suspected a foreign embassy was tapping his telephone. He said that if anyone asked her about their calls she was to say they were friends, they knew they were being monitored and the telephone sex talk was:just to fool the monitors.

Asked for comment. yester day, a White House spokesman, PJ. Crowley, replied: The only thing I can possibly say is well skip the book and wait for the movie."



An American cartoonist comments on this week's visit to China by Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State

US women serve 'double sentence'

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN PARIS

AMNESTY International to- tact with women immates are day denounces the violation of the fundamental rights and dignity of women in American prisons. Cases of rape, groping and fondling during body searches, and the use of handcuffs and shackles in childbirth, led Michel Forst, Amnesty's director in France, to refer to a "double sentence".

Accounts compiled by Amnesty echo a 1997 Justice Department investigation that admitted "frequent, prolonged, close-up and prurient viewing during dressing, showering and use of toilet facilities" in an Arizona prison. According to today's report, 4i per cent of

male — which runs counter to United Nations regulations. Last March, it adds, the Federal Bureau of Prisons "paid

\$500.000 (£312,500) to three women to drop charges against correctional personnel in California". The charges included rape. Citing UN reports and the International Tribunal for Yugoslavia, Amnesty says: "Under international law, rape of a prisoner by correctional staff is considered to be an act of torture."

In 1997 about 138,000 women were in prison. The proportion of blacks and Hispanics greatly exceeded their repre-

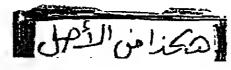
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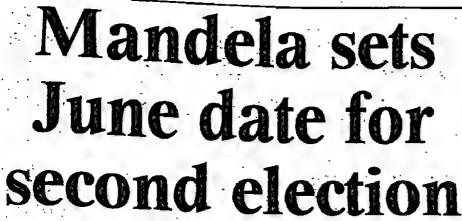
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FROM R.W. JOHNSON IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENT MANDELA yesterday announced that South Africa's second democratic election will be held on June 2, not only opening the way to something that many South Africans find hard to contemplate - a post-Mandela future but also boldly prejudging the result of two court cases

brought by the Opposition.
The New National Party and the Democratic Party are incensed by the way the African National Congress overruled the Independent Electoral Commission by ramming through a law which restricts the franchise to those holding bar-coded identity documents. Several independent surveys have shown that between four

million and five million people

most of them white and Coloured opposition voters - will thus be disenfranchised, an emotive issue not only because South African politics re-volved so long over the opening up of the vote to all, but also because the result could well be to hand the ANC the two-thirds majority it seeks, virtually by default.
The NNP's case is on appeal

and the DP's case has yet to be heard. The effect of President Mandela's announcement is thus to place the judiciary in a difficult position: with the election going ahead full steam it is difficult to see how any judge will be bold enough, whatever the merits of the case, to uphold the Opposition's plea - for to do so would



Mandela announces his poll decision yesterday

be to rule the election unconsti-

tutional in mid-campaign.
The opposition parties point to the fact that the right to universal suffrage was regarded as so sacred by the ANC that during the constitutional nego-tiations it insisted that an extraordinary 75 per cent majority would be necessary to amend or remove this rightfrom the Constitution.

Certainly, the election campaign begins with the Opposition looking heavily disadvantaged. Apart from the loss of voters through the bar-coded issue, the low registration fig-ures — only 14.9 million out of the country's 25.5 million potential voters have been registered - looks certain to hurt the Opposition too. For it is among the 4.5 million Coloureds and Indians, who gave over 60 per cent of their votes to the Opposition last time, that registration has particularly collapsed. Polls show strong feelings of alienation and disempowerment within both communities, where feeling runs high that affirmative action policies have left them as disadvantaged as ever: we were not white enough under apartheid, runs the refrain. and we are not black enough now. The response among Col-oureds and Indians is one of hopelessness and impotence, with a corresponding reluctance to "invest in the system" by registering to vote.

The opposition parties are hoping to galvanise their sup-porters by brandishing the spectre of an ANC two-thirds majority which would allow the ANC to amend the Constitution at will: "Mugabe [in Zimbabwe has two thirds' reads the NNP poster going up in and around Johannes-

burg.
The Opposition welcomes the ANC will spend them into the ground in a long cam-paign. The ANC not only receives the lion's share of the government grant to parlia-mentary parties but has also secured large-scale support from Libya, Morocco and elsewhere and is expected to have well over 300 million rands (£30 million) to spend, many times more than the Opposi-

Interest will also fasten on Mr Mandela's successor, Thabo Mbeki, and on the question of whether the liberal DP can succeed in overtaking the NNP to become the official Op-



The Duke of York, on a fiveday visit to Vietnam, meets children in an English class at Thang Long school in Ho Chi Minh City yesterday. The school is run by a Brit-

ish-registered aid group, the Saigon Children's Charity. The school has about 200 children, many of them

orphans who live with

Duke back at school

adults and often work to support themselves. The charity helps the needlest with some money each month for rice. The pupils attend classes

that focus on English: there is nuch emphasis on games, songs and group activities.

"We believe that by giving these deprived children an excellent training in Engfish, they will get decent jobs and so escape the cycle of poverty into which they were born," Paul Cleves, the chari-

Newsmen win torture case in Zimbabwe

AN ATTEMPT by the Zimbabwe Government to prevent two journalists coming to Britain for treatment of the physical and psychological injury of torture inflicted on them in January has been dismissed

by a judge.

Mark Chavunduka, 37, editor of the Zimbabwe Standard, and Ray Choto, 33, its chief reporter, are due soon to be handed their passports to allow them to undergo eight weeks of therapy at the Medi-cal Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture in Kentish Town, north London, their lawyers said yesterday.

Judge Yunus Omerjee had earlier thrown out an appeal by the Attorney-General's office against a decision by a magistrate last week that there was no doubt they had been tortured, and no reason to prevent them from leaving the country for medical treatment. He also made it clear that the Government would not be able to appeal to the Supreme

Judge Omerjee's decision underlines Mr Mugabe's weakness in his confrontation with a Judiciary that has re-fused to be intimidated by the storm of abuse from him and members of his regime against the country's judges and its independent press. "I have always feared that the Government would try to get at the judges," Mr Chavunduka said last night. "I am sure they have tried. But this has confirmed my faith in the judiciary and shown that they are

not going to be trampled on." The journalists were illegally detained by military intelligence officers who subjected them to what independent medical examinations said

Judge deals a blow to Mugabe over passports seizure, reports Jan Raath

was "sustained, severe torture" to force them to name the sources for their report of a military coup plot. They had their passports seized as part of bail conditions after they were charged with "causing

alarm and despondency".

They returned to work a few days after they were released and the newspaper has kept up its fare of reports critical of the Government. "If anything, this (the ordeal) has made me more resolved in my writing," he said. However, they have moved into secret addresses out of fear they may be arrest-

President Mugabe has endorsed their violent interrogation. The Attorney-General's office is investigating claims that the Standard's proprietors improperly contrived to get a leading white judge to hear their application in January for a court order for Mr Chavunduka's release. "It is absolute rubbish," said Clive Wilson, the Standard's managing director.

The 40-year-old Rhodesian law used by Mr Mugabe to charge Mr Chavunduka and Mr Choto also come under threat this week with an urgent appeal to the supreme court to abolish it on the grounds that it contravenes constitutional guarantees of

Mickey Mouse is wooed by Chinese

FROM JILL MCGIVERING IN HONG KONG

A PRELIMINARY deal for Walt Disney to build a major theme park has been announced in Hong Kong by the territo-ry's financial secretary, Donald Tsang. He said "a common understanding" had been reached, and hoped to announce a decision by July.

The news, likely to bring a much needed boost to Hong Kong's flagging tourism industry, was one of the few positive points in an otherwise sombre budget, delivered by Mr Tsang yesterday and de-

scribed as the toughest of his career. Hong Kong's deepest economic recession for decades is causing acute social hardship and political discomfort. Mr Tsang confirmed that recovery would be slow, and predicted a half per cent growth next year, with unemployment continuing

to rise in the coming months. Last year Mr Tsang answered a public call for a tax-cutting budget to ease the pain of the recession. Now there is far less left to offer - although local people did re-

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The world, the region and the nation



Donald Tsang, Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, holds up plans for a cyberport project yesterday after presenting his recession budget

ceive an instant gift of a one-off 10 per cent rebate on tax paid last year. Shops and restaurants, suffering a collapse in consumer confidence, will be hoping the handout will boost trade.

Government revenues were hard hit last year by a nine-month halt on government land sales, traditionally a major source of income.

Rising unemployment and an ageing population added to a growing welfare bill. As a result, a deficit budget was unavoidable, said Mr Tsang.
Some analysts criticised the budget as

unimaginative. Hong Kong's post-hando-ver constitution gives limited room for manoeuvre. It instructs the Government to strive for fiscal balance and avoid deficits. Mr Tsang is clearly conscious of the constraint, and is forced into an awkward position, coming under intense political pressure to stimulate the economy without having the revenue at his disposal.

Other measures included the building of a £1 billion cyberport, to support the development of an information services industry in Hong Kong, and a freeze on civil service pay and jobs. Mr Tsang also announced financial reforms, including the merger of stock and futures exchanges and a tightening of banking controls.

Beijing: China's budget deficit is expect-

ed to balloon by 56 per cent in 1999 as Beijing accelerates spending in an effort to revive its flagging economy, the Hong Kong media reported. The reports said military spending would increase by 12.8 per cent to 104.65 billion yuan (£7.9 billion). (AP)

Doubts plague Australian republicans

FROM DAVID WATTS

AUSTRALIA'S republican movement is in serious trouble if the latest polls were to be reflected in November's referendum on the subject. Unless there is a marked shift, then the republican baby runs the risk of being thrown out with the bathwater.

Though a majority still favours a republic, the devil is in the detail of how a new head of state would be selected.

The referendum question poses a stark choice: selection of a President by Parliament or continuation of the monarchy.

The latest poll published in The Australian shows those in favour of a republic at 51 per cent, but 55 per cent are opposed to Parliament choosing that leader. Support for the republic is at a two-year high. down three percentage points from 1994.

There is no agreement on who might qualify as the first President. Australian intellectuals feel the country has to make

the transition from worship of its sporting heroes to a truly Australian presidential figurehead. But the reality is that a sports personality might attract precisely the broad base of support needed.

Malcolm Turnbull, lawyer, chief of the investment bank Goldman Sachs in Australia and leader of the republican movement, said: "A no vote is a vote for pessimism ... for caveman conservatism. It's like saying. We've always been happy in a mud hut, let's keep it that way'."

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Japan's health officials ready to swallow the Pill

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPAN, one of the last countries to continue to prohibit oral contraceptives, might soon lift the ban, despite opposition from male chauvinists who fear the Pill will unleash female promiscuity.

A key government committee yesterday again refused to approve the Pill, which has been commercially available in Western countries for more than 30 years. But officials said the Health Ministry's Central Pharmaceutical Council is expected to recommend at its June meeting that the Government legalise the Pill as a prescription drug.

The move follows criticism from women of the speed with which the health bureaucrats approved the impotence treatment drug Viagra in January. By contrast, the Pill has been entangled in red tape for 30 years as bureaucrais ponder possible negative effects on health and conservative politicians worry about the impact on a low fertility rate and the risks of female promiscuity.

to enhance male sexuality, but

women have had to wait for

decades for the approval of a

Women's groups said vester-Yuriko Ashino, deputy director of the Family Planning Federation of Japan, said: The elderly men who rule Japan raced to approve a drug

in Aids and other sexual diseases. Medical experts, however, say the ban has more to do with the medical lobby, a big financial supporter of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Official statistics show that one in five unwanted pregnan-

drug that would improve the

quality of their life."

Ministry officials say they

worry that use of the condom

will plummet if the Pill catch-

es on, leading to an increase

cies ends in abortion. Abortions. 340,000 of which are performed each year, cost from 100,000 to 200,000 yen (£500 to £1,000). A gynaecologist, who asked not to be named, said: "Abortions are a hugely profitable business ... Greedy doctors have kept up pressure on the Government not to approve the Pill."

day that approval was not yet certain. The Health Ministry was set to approve the Pill in 1992, but then reversed its decision. Since then Japan has come under fire from the United Nations for its high number of unwanted pregnancies and for denying women a safe means of protecting their reprodutcive health. The Government is more sensitive to international criticism than to the outery from their women.

A tablet

to stop

smoking

IN 1967, during the Cold War. Swedish submarines were staying submerged for increasingly long

and their concentration began to

periods. Not unnaturally, the tempers of the crew members became fraved

At first this was attributed to changed routines but then it was

realised that the deterioration in the morale of the crew was not only. related to longer periods on pairol-but to a smoking ban. Smoking would have been out of the question in the enclosed confines of the submarine, but bunning it

produced withdrawal symptoms in those who were miconne-dependent Dr Claes Lundgren, who was carrying out research on submarine air quality and air pressure at the time, noticed the problems and consulted Ove Ferno, the head of

research at Pharmacia, and asked him to produce a cigarette substitute that would restore the tattered nerves of smokers while not offending other

Chewing tobacco was a traditional sailors' way of absorbing nicotine, but the hawking and spitting that went with it was almost as repulsive

However, it gave Fermo the idea

Nicotine was bound to the gum so

Nicorette gum has been joined by

patches, inhalers and a nasal spray and now a tablet, the Microtab. This

is placed under the tongue and gives as good a blood level of nicotine as a

patch, if not quite as effective as a

that it was released when the gum-was chewed and was then absorbed

as a smoke laden annosphere.

that nicotine was the key to the

problem and that chewing gum

might be an inoffensive way to

directly through the mouth. Pharmacia, now Pharmacia &

Upjohn, has been working on

cigarette substitutes ever since.



Dr Thomas Stuttaford reports on the benefits of beta-blockers on heart failure; cigarette substitutes; a drug for children with attention deficit hyperactive disorder; sperm counts; saliva and HIV infections

Don't panic, it's only heart failure

ure, when used in relation to heart failure, as "breaking down or ceasing to function". Small wonder that patients become distressed when told that they have heart failure: they, too, may have been reading the dictionary. However, even without looking it up, they know about failure and that when their car engine breaks down the journey is over and their vehicle will be pushed ignominiously into a lay-by.

When they hear the diagnosis of heart failure, there is no need for patients to assume that their journey is over and that, like a clapped-out old banger, they are fit only for the scrapheap.

In medical terminology heart failure does not mean that the heart has stopped, or is even in imminent danger of stopping. To a doctor heart failure implies no more than that the heart no longer has the capacity to perform its work efficiently. As a result the feet, and sometimes abdomen, become swollen, the patient becomes breathless and abnormally tired.

Occasionally the breathlessness is acute at night and the patient may wake coughing, choking and with feelings of suffocation. After a few breaths of fresh air and a composed walk around the house calm is usually restored. Treatment can be modified to stop these attacks. Fortunately, there are drugs available that can be prescribed to improve the heart's function and to minimise the weakness that has brought about its failure to pump blood efficiently enough to keep the body's tissues

fully supplied with oxygen and nutrients. Heart failure, however, must be taken seriously. It affects between 1 and 3 per

he Oxford Dictionary defines fail- cent of the population, 8 per cent of those over 65 and 10 per cent of those over 80. The cost of inpatient care is £214 million a year, and the overall cost to the NHS is £360 million; and as the population ages, these figures are likely to rise.

The great hope for patients, and for the Treasury, is that medication may so improve that inpatient treatment becomes less frequent and more people can be treated as outpatients. There is excellent news for patients with congestive cardiac fail-ure whose hearts need boosting. A recent trial has shown that when beta-blockers were taken regularly with an ACE inhibitor and a diuretic, there was a remarkable improvement in quality and length of life.

The trial was conducted using the betablocker bisoprolol furnarate, trade name Emcor or Monocor, or as a combination drug with a diuretic, Monozide. The first randomised placebo-controlled trial of treating heart failure by adding betablockers to the patient's standard medication showed that compared to using ACE inhibitors and diuretics alone, there is a remarkable improvement and that the sudden death rate was halved; death from all causes was reduced by a third; and hospital admissions cut by 30 per cent. So good were the results that it was considered unethical to continue with the trial as by so doing the treatment would have been withheld from those unfortunate enough to have been allocated other treatment.

The medical magazine Monitor, which has recently reviewed the use of betablockers with ACE inhibitors and diuretics in the treatment of heart failure, quotes Professor Milton Packer, of Columbia



Addicted to the weed - nicotine impregnated gum was found to help submariners when cigarettes were banned

evidence supporting the use of beta-blockers is so persuasive that all physicians now have a duty to prescribe these drugs for patients unless they are asthmatic or have a known intolerance to one or other of the drugs. Beta-blockers should become part of the strategy for preventing heart failure rather than rescuing patients who

have already reached the end of the line. Dr John Cleland, of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, warns that beta-blockers should be introduced slowly into treatment. "The amount of benefit provided by beta-blockers in heart failure appears University, New York. He says that the even greater than that of ACE inhibitors."

ONE of the strangest paradox es of medicine is that doctors who worked so hard to wear an earlier generation off purple hearts, and now do everything they can to dissuade teen-agers and clubbers from taking amphetamines, are prescribing another ampheta-mine, Ritalin, for children. Is it acceptable to take Ritalin in the nursery yet criminal to use

speed on the dance-floor? Most doctors would agree that it was acceptable because Ritalin is the drug of choice for the treatment of attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD) in children. Recently, however, the International Drugs Control Board, a United Nations agency, has given a warning that doctors in the UK are prescribing too much Ritalin to too many children.

Puise magazinė savs that the UN report has called on Britain and nine other countries to "seek out possible overdiagnosis of ADHD and curb

Want a

baby? Have

a siesta

THE afternoon siesta has

always been a bit of a puzzle to

hard-working northern Euro-peans. Although it was

assumed that Italian and

Spanish men demanded the afternoon off because of the

heat, it was also sometimes

surmised that the siesta might

lend itself to romantic inter-

ludes. However, until recently, mobody supposed that sex in

the afternoon might have seri-

although its disadvantages for the elderly had already been

Intercourse is more likely to

be associated with cardiovas-

noon than at any other time of

the day. There are two explana-

Toddlers and amphetamines

excessive use". In England, prescriptions have increased from 2,600 in 1992 to 92,000 in 1997. In answer to a parliamentary question just before Christmas, the then Health Minister, Alan Milburn, revealed that the number of NHS prescriptions for Ritalin had doubled in a year.

Not everybody views this with alarm. The journal Young Minds, which deals with children's emotional and psychiatric problems, quotes Dr Geoffrey Kewiey, a consult Sussex Learning Assessment Centre, who suggests that the increase does not necessarily

represent inappropriate prescribing. One per cent of chil-dren in the UK suffer from hyperactivity, and many more other symptoms that form part of ADHD, but apparently only a fraction of them are on Ritalin as part of their treatment, many because no diagnosis has yet been made.

Children suffering from ADHD, previously known as hyperkinetic disorder, are never still, do not concentrate, are impulsive and apparently careless. They do not listen, and ant paediatrician at the West . are infuriated when they have to wait to say something. They make many demands on parents, which would be bearable

if the children went to bed on time and stayed there, but when peace should descend on the house, they are still run-

ning around.
Unfortunately, children with ADHD are as irritating to other children as to adults, and often end up friendless and feeling lonely and un-loved. There is evidence that in adult life hyperactivity tends to disappear, but their attention span is still limited, and hyperkinetic children risk developing personality disor-ders in adult life.

Treatment is either with behavioural therapy, with medication, of which Ritalin is the best known, or with a combination of the two. Ritalin calms the child and increases attention span. Surprisingly, it also makes children less impulsive and more amenable to a reward and deterrent regime.

 Further information from Young Minds: 0345 626376.

An Italian study has now



Siesta baby: the chances of conception rise after lunchtime

tions: the kindly one is that the excitement and exercise following a heavy lunch is too much for the coronary circulation, as much of the blood has been

directed to the digestive tract. The less kindly one is that afternoon sex is more likely to be illicit, and hence liable to

uncovered the advantages of seems that the quality of men's semen is not constant throughout the day. Fifty-four couples attending an infertility clinic have been

monitored and the quality of morning semen and sperm compared with those of the afternoon. In the afternoon there were more sperm in the samples analysed, and the sperm were much more active and swam more determinedly. They were healthier in every

way.

The report of this research in Human Reproduction and in the British Medical Journal suggests that couples who are finding it difficult to con-ceive could perhaps capitalise on the improved sperm count and better-quality afternoon semen, which contains more cytokines — proteins that have a stimulating influence on cells — and other nutrients.



Saliva can help to reduce the risk of HIV infection

Aids first disturbed the comparative calm of the genito-urinary clinics, we were frequently asked if it was safe to been used by an HTV-positive patient. Other patients were concerned about the Communion cup:-was it helpful to wipe the chalice or did it spread the infectious organisms more evenly around the rim? Alarm was further increased when it was confirmed that saliva contains the HIV virus. Could it, people

Fortunately, it seemed that although HIV was present in saliva and, for that matter, in tears, it wasn't spread in this way. The HIV virus is not as virulent or as infectious as usually supposed and is com-paratively fragile.

wondered, be transmitted by

Experience soon showed that it was, in fact, safe to kiss a subbing boyfriend or girlfriend, and that the likelihood

WHEN HIV infections and a theoretical risk. HIV was not transmitted in this way and was not ever likely to be unless the virulence of the

virus changed. HIV has occasionally been spread by saliva when it is heavily contaminated by blood. But even this transmission is very rare - so rare that it warrants a mention in the medical journals when it has been shown to have occurred.

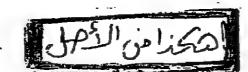
As well as the real-life experience, laboratory research reported in the Archives of Internal Medicine has been studying saliva and its effect on the mononuclear leucocytes - white blood cells carrying the virus. In the experiments, saliva

collected from healthy donors rapidly broke up the infected white cells from an HIV-positive donor and thereby stopped the virus from multiplying. Scientists have demonstrated what dogs have always known - that saliva is a good antiseptic

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Why Beryl

speaks for

the nation

Speaking correct English

matters, says Penny Wark

Master Georgie. Regional accents should be wiped out, she said, and you could sense a frisson of embarrassment from the sponsors as a spokesman felt obliged to expand her remarks. This was unnecessary. When Bainbridge said

"You've got to learn to speak properly", many of us knew what she meant. This was not an attack on the idiosyncrasies of Liverpudlian, the gormlessness of Birmingham phonetics or the popular association between Cockney and

These are caricatures, though there are plenty who believe that accents constitute a handi-

cap and dispose of them at the earliest opportu-

nity (who would guess that Sue Lawley grew up in Dudley?) Bainbridge may have ditched her Liverpool accent (my Yorkshire accent has been more robust) but what she was attacking

was the pernicious erosion of the English lan-

guage which has a little to do with accent but

At the risk of sounding like my mother

(whose enunciation would put a 1950s' BBC announcer to shame), I admit that my hackles rise every time I hear someone say "them books", "I done it", "it weren't me, nah". This is the language of Harry Enfield's Kevin the teen-

ager; it is classless and can be heard on buses

and trains from Essex to Derbyshire, from Tee-

side to Bristol, as well as at press conferences

I know children who speak like Kevin to their friends but who, when talking to adults,

resume their parents' conventional speech pat-

terns. More worryingly, I know others who

speak like Kevin and write as they talk. They have not been taught grammar. They cannot spell either, but they insist that this doesn't matter because computers have spellcheck. Why

should they change the way they speak when footballer role models do little more than grunt

Doubtless Beryl Bainbridge's remarks were

informed by concern about who will write the

novels of the future. If the post-millennium

nation has no grasp of conventional English,

who will compose tax forms and letters from

the bank manager? Computers presumably.

Who will write newspapers? It is not uncom-

mon for young journalists, Oxbridge gradu-

ates every one, to rely on spellcheck and to be

What a strange nation we have become that we squirm at the Hoddle-Isation of our lan-

guage but feel it is insensitive to express this. If Hoddle's speech represents the death throes of

our language, we should be grateful for Bain-bridge, who should be hailed its patron saint.

and TV icons speak faux-Essex?

in acute need of grammar check.

much more to do with grammar.

given by Glenn Hoddle.

wide-boy behaviour.

unny things, accents. In the politically correct land of Blair, it is not clever to condemn someone because of the way they speak. Yet we all have our prejudices, and we use them to judge people we meet. It took Beryl Bainbridge, herself from Liver pool, to be brave enough to make this point af-ter winning the WH Smith award for her novel



The record for killing by machete was 1,000 every 20 minutes

The Hutus who killed the tourists in Uganda have a final solution for the Tutsis of Rwanda Operation Insecticide. Linda Melvern reports

he men who bludg-eoned to death the tourists in Uganda are among the most brutal killers the world has ever known. They have been described as lost to humanity. and so used to killing that the action of murder produces no feeling in them. They are brutalised and merciless, and they belong to the militia called the Interahamwe whose victims mostly bleed to death from machete wounds. In Rwanda in 1994, their part in the massa-cres ensured that the killing rate was five times faster than that achieved by the Nazis.

In a few months, one million people were killed. It was portrayed as a civil war, a tribal conflict between races, the Hutus and Tutsis, in which old conflicts and bitter rivalries lead to a primitive savagery. The images of

barbarity were relayed across the world: the machete attacks, the bodies floating down rivers, corpses piled

vistic nature of the killing. Rwanda became just another

African tragedy.

The truth was very different. What happened in Rwanda was generate — deliberate, carefully planned and clinically carried out by an extremist Hutu group known as Hutu Power, using army units and gendarmes to drive people systematically from their homes and assemble them at pre-arranged places for slaughter.

Local administrators organised the disposal of bodies in rubbish trucks and the slaughter continued unhindered for three months, eliminating more than 12 per cent of the

The killing machine of this

genocide was the Interahamwe, created two years before the genocide in egan as the youth wing of an extremist po-litical party. Rwanda, with its collapsed economy and high unemployment, was a breeding ground for fascism. Young men with no work and no future were recruited from the

Rwanda is the size of Wales and when the genocide started, the militia was estimated at 30,000-strong. Of all the militia groups, it was the Intera-bamwe who beez me the largest and best kno. n. The Interahan we had train-

Videos

showed

how to

slash the

Achilles

tendon

ing camps. The training lasted three weeks, and centred on torture and killing. The emphasis was how to kill at speed, and the record set for

killing with a machete was 1,000 people killed every 20 were videos on how to slash the Achilles tendon to prevent escape. To help to train re-

cruits, people were snatched from their homes and seemed only to confirm the ata- taken to the camps, their bodies later buried in pits.

The Interahamwe was cen-trally organised and disci-plined, with leaders at neighbourhood level. The recruits were paid, and their families were given food, beer and clothing. Before the genocide began; Interahamwe committees were created in every one of Rwanda's 146 communes where there were hidden stockpiles of new machetes, hoes, axes and picks - all used as weapons. In each commune there were militia members. Some were issued with AK47s. The people were told that the militia was engaged in the civ-

defence of the country. For 20 years Rwanda was ruled by a clique who came

from the north and where the ideology known as Hutu Power was created. In pre-genocide Rwanda, hate propaganda taught that the minority Tutsis were outside human ex-istence — that they were ver-min- and subhuman. They were called cockroaches and the hunting down and murder of Tutsis "and their Hutu accomplices" were described as communal work, necessary to "cleanse the country".

Thousands of Tuisis had been expelled from Rwanda in

three great waves and, as refu-gees, had settled in camps in neighbouring states, creating Africa's largest refugee problem. In 1990, Rwanda was invaded from Uganda by the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF). a group fighting for the return to Rwanda of these refugees. The RPF wanted power-sharing, an end to the backward and embarrassing dictatorship, an end to the ethnic divide and compulsory identity cards. There followed three years of civil war, which finally ended with an international agreement for refugee return and power-sharing. To the outside world, Rwanda was on the road to democracy.

We may never know the ex-act moment when the Hutu Power plotters first conceived the genocide, when those rul-ing the country, a group of ruthless, opinionated and evil people, plotted to destroy the

They had one big idea and it was simple - to eliminate those with whom they were to share power. The plan of these Hutu Power ideologues was no secret. Two years before the genocide, Western intelligence reports gave warning that Hutu Power was planning to exterminate the Tutsis and moderate Hutu opposition, to prevent democracy and concluded that moderate members of the military, and the Cabinet, as well as the young educated officers and the intellectuals, were powerless. If anyone tried to impose democracy, it would serve only to provoke resistance. This is precise-

ly what happened. Six months before the genocide started, a new radio sta-tion was created in Rwanda (Radio Télévision Libre des Mille Collines, known as RTLMC). Among the diplomatic corps in Rwanda the radio station was very soon a joke, for its announcers used street language, disc jockeys, pop music and phone-ins. Sometimes its announcers were drunk and the jokes be-

came offensive, vulgar and crude, for the station was designed to appeal to the interahamwe. Its announcers claimed that the peace agreement was a Tutsi plot. Over the airwaves the Tutsis were described as evil and clever, a well-off "foreign" minority. The radio station prepared the people progressively for genocide and

broadcasters endorsed it and encouraged it.
On the night the genocide began, April 6, 1994, everyone in Rwanda's capital, Kigali, who

was pro-democracy or anyone who had spoken out against the regime, was hunted down and killed. Within the next few hours every journalist, every lawyer, every professor, every teacher, every civil servant, every priest, every doctor, every clerk, every student - all were murdered in a house-tohouse operation undertaken by the 1,500 strong Presidential Guard and the militia. Those who tried to escape found road blocks manned by a militia growing in numbers, for the new recruits to the killing machine were given the

One of the United Nations peacekeepers who had come to



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property and possessions of monitor the transition from

dictatorship to democracy described: "...he just held him by his shirt and started drag ging him ... and just raised his machete and hacked him on the head... he did that twice... after that, he just rubbed his bloodstained machete on his buttocks, and then searched the victim's pockets... not long after, there was a tipper-truck with prison-ers who had been detailed to collect bodies from the streets

and someone flagged it down and dragged the body from under the tree and threw it into the tipper-truck, which was almost full and people were moaning and crying, you could see that some were not

nly the RPF, the mainly Tutsi army. tried to stop the genocide but by the time this army reached Kigali in July, there were hardly any Tutsis left to save.

Like the fact of the Nazi Holocaust, the very idea of genocide beggars belief. Genocide extends beyond killing, for it covers

Every the prevention of birth; to annihilate a people, it is necesclerk, sary to kill women and children. Genocide is difficult to teacher comprehend for it tends to be seen as and priest an aberration rather than a system. It is not. Genocide has to be planned. The story of the butchered Rwanda genocide

terrible when the genocide began, its made worse because its true nature is so often deliberately distorted by Hutu Power propagandists, adept at manipulating the international community and even managing, at the height of their genocide, to get a hearing before the UN Security Council.

is beyond belief, a

The Interahamwe continues to train and rearm. The Hutu Power extremists remain convinced of the rectitude of their behaviour and are determined to complete their task - the extermination of Tutsis. They plan to destabilise the region and then invade Rwanda, a plan which is code-named Operation Insecticide.

The author is a British journalist whose most recent book, The Ultimate Crime, was published by Allison and Rusby in 1995. She is working on a book explaining the circumstances of the genocide in Rwanda, to be published later this year.

A voyage round my father

The centenary of Eric Linklater,

a peasant with a noble pen

ext week is my fa-ther's centenary. I feel suddenly ancient. To have had a 19th-century parent, born in the Victorian era. gives one a genetic link with history, but it also makes one

sound incredibly old.

My father, Eric Linklater, witnessed the great events of his time, fought, and nearly died, in the First World War, saw, the last fluorities of the saw the last flowering of the British Empire in India, relished the insanities of America in the Prohibition age, gave warnings about the dangers of Hitler, chronicled the advance of the Eighth Army through ltaly, reported on the Korean War, and lived to see the last Apollo mission to the Moon. Through all this time, he wrote, wrote and wrote.

I've added up the novels, the histories, the essays and the plays, and it comes to more than 80 books. Among them are several that I believe will last, and I am delighted that two - Private Angelo and The Dark of Summer - are to be republished by Canongate this year so that others can judge. The late Anthony Burgess thought he was "one of the finest craftsmen of the century". Who am I to disagree?

His compulsion to write drove him often to the brink of exhaustion. But where it came from is something I still do not fully understand. There was no writing tradition in the family. His father was a master mariner, his

forebears farmers and fishermen from Orkney. He described himself, inadequately, as "a peasant with a pen". I suspect that the

horrors of that first war and his own brush with death may have had some-thing to do with it. A German bullet pier-ced the back of his helmet and took part of his skull off. That

miracle, that he did so when so many of his dearest friends were killed seems to have induced a fierce energy, a determination to fill every waking hour with new experiences, and somehow to compensate for those deaths. He travelled remorselessly, entertained lavishly, filled his house with strange and exotic neonie, fell into black rages when life failed to meet the standards he set it.

None of this made him an easy father. He had high expectations of his children, and we seem to have fallen regularly short of them. My brother remembers him "striving repeatedly and angrily to mould us to a less irritating form." and my own memories of childhood are interspersed with moments of high tension. when my ignorance about the history of the Klondyke, or the whereabouts of Lake Titicaca was lamentably exposed.

Today's parents would consider his ideas about upbringing impossibly authoritarian, even oppressive. To test your children on general know-ledge in front of others, to expect them to join in adult conversation round the table, to impose an inflexible code of behaviour, all these would be regarded as unacceptably harsh by modern standards. My own reaction was to fly in the opposite direction, to deter mine that my children would

he allowed to develop at their own pace, free of the narrow grew up. I doubt if I have made a better fist of it than he did. though I think I do have an easier-going relationship with my children. But, looking back, I envy his moral certainties, and the more I read again about the things he cared for, the stronger the chord they touch. I find myself frequently comparing my beliefs with his, and wondering what he would have made of today's

neurotic generation.

He would, I know, have been shocked by the decline in standards of literacy. He was taught at Aberdeen Grammar School, which offered a classical education, and which expected its pupils, at the age of 15, to have read Macaulay, Ruskin, Addison and Temple; Byron, the school's most famous former pupil, was added

My father believed that a Scottish education was the finest in the world, but he was by no means narrow-minded on the subject — which may explain why he sent his two sons to Eton and Winchester respectively. He would have shunned the political correctness of the day, being too much of an individualist to accept that the State had any right to meddle with private standards of behaviour. His address to the students of Aberdeen University, when he was elected Rector

in 1946, was enti-tled "The Art of Adventure" and encouraged them to challenge convention wherever possible. "Individualism has its dangers and is capable of evil." he said, "but the individual has a power of good for which there is no substitute at the

conference table." As a British patrihe survived at all was a ot, he would probably have been a Eurosceptic, unhappy with the prospect of an alien bureaucracy threatening the sovereignty of the State.

> ut as a devoted Scot, he would certainly have favoured devolution He had stood as an early candidate for the National Party of Scotland in the East Fife by-election of 1933, but disliked the undercurrent of anti-Englishness that so often accompanied Scottish nationalism. His view was that, while the Union had been of great benefit to individual Scots, it had steadily drained the country of its best people. Until Scotland had more control over its own affairs, he felt, it would never achieve its full

> In a remarkable prescient essay in 1936, he concluded: "History would seem to be on the side of the Nationalists, for a quality of resurgence has been so regular a characteristic of Scotland as to appear, if not inevitable, at least normal . . . Our little renaissance,

potential.

that we discuss so earnestly, and our new politics, that do not yet interest many, may be the prelude to a new era." I hope he's wrong about nationalism. But I cannot fault his analysis. And I'm proud to salute his 100th anniversary

comment@the-times.co.uk



The immoral majority

his is a gloat-free zone", the White House spokesman famously declared last month, after the US Senate finally put a stop to the creeping constitutional coup against Bill Clinton.

Had I not been on holiday at the time. I would definitely have ignored this injunction. As one of the few commentators who believed from the start that the Monica 'Lewinsky "scandal" would actually work to the President's advantage, gloating seemed to me an entirely natural and healthy reaction to the disgrace which the Republican Party and the self-styled moral majority have brought upon them-selves.

The American Right had waged a prurient, hypocritical and anti-democratic smear campaign to unseat a President whom they had repea-tedly failed to defeat through the normal political process. As a result they had not only exposed the American presidency and Congress to derision, but they also brought the Constitution and the rule of law into disrepute. For these offences, they fully deserved the political punishment meted out by voters in last year's congressional election and the graver consequences they will probably suffer in the presidential election next year. In any case, the period of embar-

rassed silence that followed the Senate impeachment vote has been abruptly interrupted by last night's interview on American television with Ms Lewinsky. This morning, the whole world will once again be talking about the moral, philosophical and geopolitical significance of broadcasting sex shows directly from the White House. That brings me to a reason more

interesting and important than party politics for indulging in a bit of gloating about the political discomfiture of America's Far Right. Monica is already being described as a cultural icon, whose natural rapport with the American psyche could turn her into a sort of downmarket, demotic Californian version of Diana, Princess of Wales. This comparison will probably turn out to be an hysterical overstate ment and an insult to the memory of the truly remarkable Princess. But the fact that Ms Lewinsky is emerging as the popular heroine of this tawdry drama speaks volumes about the triumph of social libertarianism in modern culture and about the magnitude of the historic miscalThe Right wanted to punish Clinton

for the sins of the Sixties generation

culation made by the American

It was a cliche of the late 1980s that the successful politicians of the future would learn to mix rightwing economics with the libertarian social precepts that had traditionally been associated with the Left. The slogan of the 1990s would be "free markets and free love". But curiously enough, this libertarian formula was quickly forgotten by the conservative political parties whose most successful leaders, Ronald Reagan and Margaret That-

cher, had in the early 1980s inaugurated the new era of economic and social laisser faire. They tried to create a politics of economic and social conservatism combined. They were committing a huge historical error, by trying to restore the values of the 1950s for generations whose attitudes were ineradicably influenced by the following permis-

The leaders of the "moral" Right became obsessive in their pursuit of President Clinton because they saw him as a carrier of the moral infection that was destroying American society. He was the quintessential representative of the 1960s, an era of sexual permissiveness and social rebellion, which had destroyed America's self-confidence and its respect for established

authority. The moral majority saw the 1960s as an aberrational period of self-indulgence, sandwiched between the stability of the 1950s and the equally disciplined if far less prosperous, era of hard work bred by economic insecurity that followed the oil shocks of 1974 and 1979. They saw their views affirmed by the repeated election victories of Mrs Thatcher and Mr Reagan in the 1980s. The swing to conservatism among the young people of the 1980s - the "young fogeys" of Britain and the "me generation" of America seemed to confirm their faith that the fundamental "decency" of their societies had been blighted only temporarily by the counter culture of the 1960s.

The conservatives were convinced that Bill Clinton's victory over George Bush in 1992 was nothing more than a temporary setback. The Republicans would soon be back in charge in the White House and their entire economic political and social agenda would prevail because "his-tory was on their side". They saw Mr Clinton and his whole genera-tion as moral pollut-

ants, not as legiti-mate political opponents. Clinton must have tricked his way into power, since the American people would never have knowingly accepted his decadent values.

It was because they regarded Mu Clinton as a moral pollutant that they were so determined to destroy him. Linda Tripp revealed this most poignant-ly in her famous tapes, when she described her disgust

at the slovenly manners and bad language with which Mr Clinton's lieutenants had desecrated the White House. It was because Mr Clinton's opponents saw his election as ipso facto illegitimate that they were so ruthless in the methods they employed against him. And it was because they viewed the 1960s as an aberration that they were so confident in the success of their attempted coup, despite the overwhelming constitutional and legal odds in the President's favour.

The American Right was absolutely convinced, almost up to the day of Mr Clinton's acquittal, that history and the great "silent majority" of the American people was on their side. But last month this illusion suddenly and traumatically vanished. For this observation you do not have to take the word of a gloating foreign commentator who last lived in America almost ten years ago. Look at the reactions of the leaders of America's Right itself.

on the Internet by Paul Weyrich, the founder of the Free Congress Foundation who proudly invented the term "moral majority" to describe his followers: "I no longer believe that there is a moral majority. I do not believe that a majority of Americans actually shares our val-Americans actually shares our values. We have to separate ourselves
from this hostile culture." Or think
about the political signicance of this
contemptious comment about
America by William Bennett, the
former Republican Education Secretary and self-styled moral crusader.
The American people, he said, are
now "complicit in Clinton's corruption". Modern Americans had betion". Modern Americans, had be-come an "ignoble" race. Or look at the closing statement of Henry Hyde, Mr Clinton's chief prosecutor in the Senate trial: "I wonder if after this culture war is over an America will survive that is worth lighting to

Consider the wail of defeat posted

ow that the moral Right has conceded defeat, or at least abandoned its arrogant majoritarian illusions, the interesting question is what this will do to the dominant socio-economic forces of the next decade. The easy prediction would be an unchallenged triumph for the combination of economic and social libertarianism — "free markets and free love". But such a conclusion is probably too pat. Social and economic liberalism

may share the word "freedom", but they are also in natural tension, as the authoritarians of the moral majority, through their blinkered prejudices instinctively perceived. Capitalism depends on a degree of social discipline, a puritan work ethic and an acceptance of economic inequality that are not always compatible with a moral relativism which asserts that everyone's values are equal and that people have the right to behave exactly as they like. Successful capitalism depends on political stability, respect for authority and a good deal of social cohesion. After a long period of prosperity these disciplines tend to break down.

The ultimate irony of the Lewinsky scandal is that, in the coming ade, some of the moral majori ty's Jeremiahs predicting a social and economic breakdown reminiscent of the 1960s might even be proved right.

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Inside lane

plans to return to the Commons.
The Olympic gold medallist was tipped to fight Martin Bell's Tatton sear but has been persuaded by William Hague to stay by his side at least until the general election. My tame chalk stripe at Central

Office says that Coe wants to stay aboard Hague's storm-tossed ship, which will deprive him of the time

needed to win a seat.
"I am not walking away from politics, it will just be politics in a different role," he confides. Coe, who lost his seat in 1997, showing rare faith in Hague's shaky pros-pects, believes he has found a fast fane to Downing Street.

THERAPY for Chris Smith and his significant other, Dorian Jabri nis significant other, Dorian Jabri—who were seen consulting agony queen Claire Rayner at Joe Allen's recently. Claire assures me the Culture Secretary's 12-year friendship with Dorian is strong: "We are all good friends and were simply gossiping like fury."

■ BERNIE ECCLESTONE is to direct his largesse to the Tories. After his El million bung to Tony Blair was returned by No 10, the Formula One motoring racing boss thinks William Hague could benefit from the same goldmine.

"I'll give money to the Tories now. They're the ones who need it, not Labour." Ecclesione tells me. "I only offered Labour money when they looked like they needed help. In their current state, the Tories aren't a proper Opposition."



AFTER zooming round the track with the Tory Dr Liam Fox, Natalie Imbruglia (above) is back in the cockpit. The Australasian chanteuse has been tearing around a racetrack at 136mph to prepare for a celebrity race before Sunday's grand prix. "I don't know if I'm a danger to anyone, but this is going to be lots of fun."

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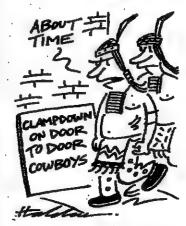
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The re-

SIX of the best for Chris Woodhead, who is to receive a poor mid-term report following an inquiry into his captaining of Ofsted. the schools watchdog.

The silver fox has charmed few members of the Education Select Committee who have studied his work and could call for his sacking.

There is a time when the head of an outfit detracts from the work itself," Valerie Davey, MP, of the select committee tells me. "He is the sort who would not help a toddler walk, but would sit back studying it, ticking off its progress."



GOOD to hear Jon Snow has reconciled his principles with the big wad paid to Monica Lewinsky to spill the beans tonight. Snow was heard telling colleagues: "I have no problem with chequebook journalism, as long as some of the cheque goes to me." Quite.

RED KEN is flying high. Our mayoral hopeful has accepted a free trip to Cuba to celebrate BA's new route. Is it worse for Livingstone to whoop it up with Castro, or to enjoy the hospitality of that free-market fetishist Robert Ayling?

I AM sorry to hear that Conrad Black, the Daily Telegraph proprietor, was upset to read here that his dashing director, Lord Cranborne, thinks his paper has been "licking the arse of the aristocracy". He told the peer he was particularly cross to read the news "in our big rival". At least you now know where to find the news first. Conrad.

JASPER GERARD

'Oxbridge has declared itself open to students of all backgrounds, but the brightest and best have replied with a two-fingered salute'

ccording to the Australian novelist Christina Stead, "A self-made man is one who believes in luck and sends his son to Oxford".

Throughout the history of "Oxbridge", complaints have gone up that the universities are opening their gates to the great unwashed. From 16th-century anxieties that Tudor reforms had produced too many undergraduates without claim to hereditary gentility, to the great postwar influx of working-class scholars born of the welfare state, a self-appointed old guard has been ready to defend the dreaming spires from the riffraff.

At the close of the 20th century the riffraff have emerged triumphant. Oxbridge has declared itself open to students of all social, racial and religious backgrounds. The brightest and best of the nation's youth have replied with a two-fingered salute.

Tomorrow the universities are expected to unveil a major survey into what motivates state school students to apply to or, more importantly, to reject Oxford and Cambridge as their prospective alma maters. The results are likely to make depressing reading for institutions that have bent over backwards to advertise their egalitarian credentials. After three decades of access plans and target schools initiatives, the knee-jerk stereotypes about Ox-

bridge are as abundant as ever. First off the block. The universities have the largest private and public schools admissions in the country. Wrong. If you want to hang out with posh kids, head to Durham or Exeter.

Misconception number two. Degrees from Oxbridge are more expensive. Wrong. It costs no more to study at Oxford and Cambridge, and given the strenuous provision of low rents,

Hannah Betts

scholarships, travel grants and book bursaries found at many colleges, it may even cost less. Enter the third insidious Oxbridge delusion. Competition to get in is more fierce than any where else. Wrong again. In the main, about three applicants compete for each place, far less than for Bristol, Sheffield or Manchester where the number is likely to be about ten.

Of course, what this third point shows is that a significant amount of self-selection is taking place. And here we move beyond mere factual misconceptions into the realm of the urban myth. Prospective students fail to appreciate that Oxbridge is only ever the sum of its parts — the students and academics - and not some vampiric anachronism forever in search of new blood to

renew its ancient carcass. Literature, of course, has a lot to answer for. The shadow of Brideshead stretches long over Oxbridge quads, even — perhaps especially — for those who have not read it. From Charles Ryder's first encounter with plovers' eggs, through Max Beerbolm's majestic Zuleika Dobson, to the painfully diffident hero of Philip arkin's Jill. the Oxbridge myth

is itself the subject of legend.

That said, a spirit of cultivated anachronism does prevail at these universities. This amounts to more than their stage-sets of ancient architecture and Corswold stone. It is embedded in the language of the place - is Mods and Tripos, exhibitions and collections - the Bod and Quad patois that one is forced to sdopt from the moment one "comes a long line of radical, or less than hannah betts@the-times.co.uk

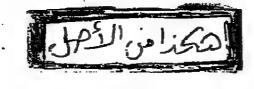
up". Coupled with a sense of radical youth, and the institution ceremony that would shame a masonic lodge, this idiom can make the place seem exclusive.

itimately, however, this seems to be less of a factor than the question of student lifestyle. Why go to a university where the student union is more likely to play host to Edwina Currie than Oasis? Why go somewhere where the syllabus is set in stone, rather than some pick namix offering

Edwina apart, this argument misses the mark. Oxbridge has three key selling points - the calibre of its tutors, its tutorial system and its libraries - which let the student devise a railormade academic programme beyond comparison. That's the beauty of ancient institutions the undergraduate is just one in

is flexible enough to take it.
This, finally, is how Oxbridge should sell itself. And, if it's searching for a literary role-model, it should look no further than Andrea Ashworth, research fellow at Jesus College, Oxford.

in her novel, Once In A House On Fire, Dr Ashworth writes about the way in which Oxford allows you to reinvent yourself. This is not the pitiful reinvention of Larkin's Jill, but a gloriously positive transformation where you can throw off the shackles of childhood and liberate yourself through learning. Where the great weight of the Oxbridge myth can be used to buttress yourself against the intellectual poverty of your past. If Oxbridge needs to "get real", this is the reality it should grasp. Copies should be sent to all sixth forms.



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COMPLETELY BANANAS

Stop this stupid quarrel before it does the world real damage

It beggars belief that the inability of the European Union to settle a six-year-old dispute with the United States, over a fruit that neither of them grows, could set the world's two greatest trading powers at loggerheads, hobble the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and risk a renewed outbreak of protectionism that would abort the world's chances of economic recovery from the collapse of emerging markets. It affronts justice that the main victims of the 100 per cent tariffs that the US is poised to impose on EU exports should be companies in Britain, the least protectionist country in the EU. But it accords entirely with experience that it is footdragging by the European Commission, which handles all EU trade policy, which has brought things to this absurd, and dangerous, pass.

The problem is the EU's banana regime which favours growers in former British and French colonies in the Caribbean, Africa and the Pacific The US claims that this breaks global trade rules by discriminating against Central American growers (and thus against corporate US giants, such as Chiquita Brands, which market the bulk of this "banana republic" production). So far, while threatening unilateral action, the US has played by the rules. The EU, for all its protests to the contrary, has not.

The US has hauled the EU three times before international trade disputes panels, beginning in 1994. Each time, it has won. The EU simply ignored the first two judgments, exploiting loopholes in the enforcement procedures of the WTO's predecessor, the Gatt. When the US tried again, in 1997, under the tougher new WTO rules which the EU is powerless to block, it again obtained judgment. But, ignoring the storm signals in Washington. the EU did nothing until last October, when the exasperated Clinton Administration announced that unless the EU obeyed the WTO by January 1, when the 15-month deadline set by WTO adjudicators expired. America would impose punitive tariffs on £310 million worth of EU exports on March 3. The EU then modified, but did not scrap, the banana regime.

The US claims, with reason, that the changes are only cosmetic. The EU retorts that it will do nothing unless the WTO, to which the whole issue has yet again been referred, outlaws the new regime - and that the US cannot meanwhile lawfully exact compensation. That is dubious; and in any case, it is utter folly for Brussels to take a matter on which it has long been in the wrong down to the wire like this.

Wisely, the US let yesterday's deadline for imposing the tariffs drop. But, for two reasons, this temporary stay of execution in no way lessens the urgency of finding a way out. The first is that, particularly for Scottish cashmere producers who are most vulnerable to the £72 million worth of punitive tariffs against British exports, the probability that they will be imposed is just as damaging to forward orders and profitability as their actual imposition. The second is that unless President Clinton can demonstrate that the EU and others can be held to their WTO obligations, Congress will not only insist that the US resort in future to unilateral action, but turn firmly against the planned new round of trade liberalisation that the whole world needs.

Americans are increasingly aggrieved that the US, which this year faces a record \$300 billion trade deficit, is bearing almost all the load of helping stricken countries trade their way out of trouble while the EU myopically rejoices in its trade surplus. In a tense climate, this stupid skirmish could trigger a trade war. Britain must insist that Brussels sue now for peace, before enormous damage is done. The EU should long ago have done far more to ease the dependence of the Caribbean on bananas; extremely generous EU aid must now be part of the solution. This battle must end, or the whole world will go bananas.

POLL POSITION

A set of elections with more threats for Hague than Blair

There are few signs of election fever in the country so far but this will be an unusually demanding year for democracy. An unprecedented array of campaigns will very soon flood over the political landscape. In May, most of England is due to vote in local elections, while in Scotland and Wales council battles will be supplemented by the initial contests for, respectively, a parliament and an assembly. Barely after that the whole nation will, on June 10, vote in the European Parliament elections. As an aid to the new institutions and unfamiliar electoral systems. The Times today publishes a comprehensive election guide for 1999.

The traditional political aspects of the struggle this year are as distinctive as those that flow from the new arts of devolution and proportional representation. Labour and Liberal Democrats, so apparently close at Westminster, will be engaged in a bitter fight for control of many English cities. The subsequent peacetime relations between the two parties may have impact on the Liberal Democrat leadership contest. The Conservatives, while relatively united for the May elections, will face the small but divisive challenge from the "Pro-Euro Conservative Party" formed by a set of disenchanted MEPs and ex-MEPs. This dispute has acquired extra significance in the light of Tony Blair's marked

shift last week in favour of joining EMU. Mid-term elections are conventionally portrayed as a crucial political test for a government: and this is an exceptionally testing sample of national sentiment. In truth, however. Mr Blair can afford to be the more relaxed of the two main party leaders. Labour's biggest enemies this year are a low turnout and the dubious record of some local authorities. The Tories, on the other hand, must try to recapture large expanses of territory lost four years ago.

That 1995 election represented the absolute low point of Conservative fortunes in the last Parliament, indeed the past century. Nearly 60 authorities and 1,885 individual council seats in England and Wales alone slipped from their grasp. A recovery on a similar scale would be necessary before William Hague could claim that he was on course to be Prime Minister. That sort of landslide is unlikely. The Tory fear is that a more modest advance - fewer than 1.000 councillors - would intensify the spotlight on the European Parliament elections and his party's performance then.

There is little that Mr Hague can do to prevent the European contest exposing internal friction. He will make it clear that those who support the pro-Euro renegades cannot remain party members. But he has to be careful to distinguish between that outright act of disloyalty and individual dissent over the single currency. To appear to threaten Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine that they will be "out on their ears" if they fail to echo his line is to issue a bluff that invites calling. Mr Hague should confront dissenters only where he can win.

The Tory leader is investing much of his energies in the English local, Scottish parliament, and Welsh assembly elections. A robust result here would strengthen him before the European contest. The Tories have taken the first steps towards renouncing their past acts of centralisation. They should add further measures, for example attacking Labour councils that do not plan to introduce directly elected mayors. Mr Hague must do well in local elections if he is to establish his authority in the second.

JAM TOMORROW

Dundee, city of jute, journalism and rejuvenation

This month Dundee celebrates the opening of a splendid new arts centre. Spacious galleries and auditoriums will bring the best of contemporary culture to a place once dismissed as dour. Dundee - a classic example of a city which fell into post-industrial decline - has become a pioneer in proving how a depressed society may pull itself back up by its bootstraps.

in school geography books. Dundee's doughty industrial past is summarised in the three j's: jam, jute and journalism. The jam - marmalade - was invented in 1797 by the wife of John Keiller, a grocer who had bought up a cargo of Seville oranges from a becalmed Spanish ship and then wondered what to do with it. Some 50 years later, Dundee's proximity to whaling stations accidentally offset the degeneration of the cotton industry. With the discovery that jute fibres could be softened with whaling oil and then processed with the machinery that had been used for linen. Dundee grew wealthy as the world centre for jute. The old Dundee company. D.C. Thompson, publisher of the Sunday Post, of Beano and Dandy, has nurtured

some of the city's most famous sons. Although jute and journalism still linger. the jam manufacturer has gone - bought by Rank Hovis and transferred south. But if this deprives the city of one of its j's, the famous alliteration may remain as Dundee earns esteem as the city of rejuvenation. In the 1930s, James Cameron, doyen of Dundee press men, wrote that the city "could have stood as a symbol of a society that had gone sour", a set "for the more embittered works of Chekhov".

The decline continued. By the 1960s, gripped by high unemployment. Dundee became the fief of corrupt city councillors of the extreme left. The flag of the Palestine Liberation Organisation fluttered in the city chambers. Pravda lay on library shelves, and Ford dropped massive invest-

ment plans after a bitter union dispute. The city realised that it had to reinvent itself. Taking inspiration from Discovery. Captain Scott's polar exploration vessel built in this Scottish seaport and recently returned there. Dundee relaunched itself as "the city of discovery". It has since become one of the world's fastest growing biotechnology centres, with heavy investments made in medical and genetic research. Equally important, at a time when most councils are cutting back on arts expenditure. Dundee is increasing its budget. Its new arts centre joins a thriving reperiory company, a community drama programme and impressive dance studios. Bonny Dundee" sets a valuable example in its understanding that, to attract investment back to its centre, it must first offer people an attractive place to live.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Time for 'healing' on women priests

From the General Secretary of the Modern Churchpeople's Union and Ms Monica Furlong

Sir, We are writing, as representatives of over 100 members of the Church of England, to suggest that the Act of Synod, originally passed as a "hold-ing device" to help those who had difficulty with the ordination of women to the priesthood, should not continue after an agreed date.

In practice, although well intentioned, it has not worked well and has been seriously discriminatory against women. It has also had a schismatic effect within the structure of the Church. We suggest, therefore, that the year 2002 would be a reasonable date at which to bring the Act to a close — a decade after the decision to ordain women as priests.

In the intervening years, some 2,000 women have been ordained priest, many contributing significantly to the work of the Church. They can scarcely continue to be treated as a passing innovation or experiment which needs to be regarded with caution. For them, and for the good of the Church as a whole, we believe that a reversion to our normal episcopal structures is necessary and would be an essential healing process.

We suggest that, at the same time, the Provincial Episcopal Visitors, commonly known as "flying bishops", should cease to have a supra-diocesan role. In our view they should be reincorporated into the normal diocesan system as assistant bishops, so restoring a proper primacy of role and authority to diocesan bishops, as has hitherto been the Catholic practice and tradition of the Church of England. There seems no adequate reason why those opposed to women priests should continue to receive extraordinary provision over and above many other groups of various views who have nevertheless felt able to accept the existing structures.

Yours faithfully. NICHOLAS HENDERSON. General Secretary. Modern Churchpeople's Union, MONICA FURLONG. MCU Office, 25 Birch Grove, W3 9SP. March 3.

'Millennium Moment'

From Prebendary Richard Askew Sir, It is indeed sad that the

Archbishop of Canterbury and Cardinal Hume are finding it difficult to take part in the "Millennium Moment" ceremony that will lead us into the year 2000 (report, February 25).

Do the Archbishop and the Cardinal represent a tiny section of the population, stubborn adherents to a set of outmoded beliefs? Or is it rather that the media moguls in charge of national millennium events are themselves living in a super-sophisticated cul-de-sac, out of touch with mainstream opinion?

Surely it is not too much to ask that the dawn of the new millennium - a landmark deriving totally from the birth of Christ - should be heralded with some minutes of prayer? And surely the vast majority of the population would feel that this was

Yours faithfully. RICHARD ASKEW (Millennium Officer). Bath and Wells Diocese. 13 Kingston Buildings, Bath BAI ILT. February 26.

The Poles at Cassino

From Mr Richard Janczyński

Sir, The Allied Army which fought at Monte Cassino consisted of many nationalities. Each played its part over the four attempts that it took to capture the monastery. The Indian infantry (report. February 24) came very close to reaching the summit. Their task was a tall order. They had to scale some of the steeper slopes whilst the German forces shot down at them from the ruins.

However, the monastery was finally taken by the 2nd Polish Corps. under the command of General W. Anders, on May 18, 1944.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD JANCZYNSKI. 16 Avery Avenue, Downley. High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HPII 5UE. r.janczynski@nationwideisp.net February 24.

Regional accents

From Mr Peter Whyer

Sir. I am sad that, when commenting on regional accents, Beryl Bainbridge included that of Liverpool (report. "Scouse novelist derides 'stupid' regional accents", later editions. March 3). It is a joy to hear such clear diction in the Liverpool pronunciation even though it carries with it a pleasant lift.

Compare that with the crude and unpleasant estuary English that we now often have to suffer on TV and radio, especially from announcers who tell us that a particular programme will be on in "harf a nower".

Yours faithfully. P. WHYER. Oakdale. Wooburn Town. High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HPI0 0PW. p.j.w@btinternet.com

'Blackmailing' employees at work tain. They were supposed to be straightforward and unlegalistic, and

any spoilsport who hired a lawyer

would be penalised by the prospect of

having to pay his own legal fees -

win, lose or draw.

The touching naivety of this notion failed completely to address the skill with which we lawyers defend our

patch. Are we really going to advise people to do it themselves? Do

In my experience most employers

are perfectly capable of speaking for

themselves in these tribunals, and

most arguments would be quite straightforward if it wasn't for the

lawyers. It is the lawyers who need to

be kept out of tribunals, not com-

w@wilsonsolicitors.demon.co.uk

Sir, The answer to Mr Rose's ques-

tion: prospective employers should

contact all past employers to ascertain

the reason for leaving. The previous "blackmailing" would soon come to

Yours faithfully, JOHN WILSON

86 Town Street. Farsley, Leeds LS28 5LD.

February 23.

Yours faithfully, J. C. OVERTON,

Brookside Cottage Hatchet Lane, Winkfield

Yours sincerely, M. A. LASSMAN,

February 23.

Windsor, Berkshire SL4 2EE.

From Mr M. A. Lassman

99 Woodlands, NWII 9QT. February 23.

(Solicitor), AdviceNet,

From Mr J. C. Overton

butchers advocate vegetarianism?

From Mr Ian A. Page

Sir, Many employers will recognise the unfair effect of the employment laws detailed in today's letter from Mr Anthony Rose. I have personally defended a number of such cases successfully. But the time and expense involved means our business suffers and we thereby have less resources

available to employ more staff. I recently defended a case brought originally in 1997, but delayed until this year, by a legal trainee who told me at the outset he would take up as much time as possible of my senior staff and it would be better for me to

I declined, and when the matter came before the tribunal the dismissed employee accused his manager of drunkenness, theft, lying, racial abuse and assault. He produced no supporting evidence and the tribunal dismissed his claim. I, together with members of my staff, had to appear at hearings on six separate days spread over two years to achieve this result.

Mr Rose asks how a company can protect itself in such circumstances The answer is that they must defend themselves, irrespective of cost, Otherwise they invite blackmail.

Yours faithfully, IAN A. PAGE (Chairman), CTL Components pic. Falcon House, 19 Deer Park Road, SW19 3UX. February 23.

From Mr John Wilson

Sir. There is an easy answer to Mr Rose's question. Sack the lawyers.

Employment tribunals were introduced because it was thought that the courts and legal procedures were not appropriate for employment disputes, especially bearing in mind that we lawyers have a vested interest in turning every molehill into a moun-

Treating psychopaths

From Dr Andrew Wilski

Sir, The Home Secretary's proposals for dealing with psychopaths (letters, February 22) should be welcomed. I regard the short-term sentences dispensed under the present legislation as dangerously ineffective.

People diagnosed as possessed of psychopathic personality disorder would, as a rule, have shown a repetitive pattern of cruel, sadistic and brutally violent behaviour which would have caused much suffering to people who came into contact with them. In their conduct, they are pitiless, ruthless and without remorse. According to psychiatric definition. they are regarded as responsible for their acts.

On the other hand, it is generally recognised that psychopaths cannot successfully "treated" in the context of psychiatric systems — ie, that on the whole they do not significantly or lastingly change as a result of psychiatric procedures, while causing turmoil in psychiatric wards. Their sense of responsibility may be further

diminished by contacts with psychiatry, a branch of medicine which inevitably carries with it the notion of "illness" and implies an absolution from responsibility. I propose that there should be a

Sir, One cannot help wondering if the same solicitor acted for the "blackmail-

ing" employee in all three cases!

"third way", between hospital and prison, for attending to psychopaths before they commit even more serious crimes: new humane reformatories that would aim at modifying the malformed personalities of psychopaths through useful work, appropriate education, benevolent moral guidance and a form of friendly but nonindulgent attitudes on the part of the

of attitude towards other people and social arrangements.

(Consultant Psychiatrist and Medical Director, Mental Health Services), Pembury Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4QJ. February 23.

Conflict in the Horn

From the Ambassador of Ethiopia

Sir, Your recent reports on the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea (February 9, 10, 16, 18 and 19) have been accurate and fair. I would, however, like to take issue with a couple of points in your editorial, "War in the Horn" (February 19).

To suggest that a significant factor in Ethiopia's motivation for war is "its underlying lear [of] denial of access to the Red Sea" is to misunderstand the economic relationship between Ethiopia, Eritrea and the Red Sea ports.

Ethiopia's use of Eritrea's ports is of much greater economic importance to Eritrea than to Ethiopia. Eritrea has received a crucial part of its annual income from Ethiopia. Since Eritrea's reckless invasion of Ethiopia last May. Ethiopia has transferred its business to the neighbouring port of Djibouti, which has three times the capacity of Assab in Eritrea and is much more efficient.

Alleviating poverty

From the Reverend Hugh Hanley

Sir. Ben Wood (letter, February 25) says he would have much more sympathy for Cardinal Basil Hume's pleas for those living in absolute poverty if his Church "allowed its flock the contraceptive means towards halving the world's popula-While some poor countries have

high populations, others suffer from lack of people. It is the densely populated Western world that uses up its unfair share of the planet's resources.

As for artificial contraception, while many couples testify to its benefits, I believe the jury is still out on whether its general use is of overall benefit to the medical and moral wellbeing of society.

The consequent over-sexualisation of our culture can make us even more selfish and less willing to help the poor of the world.

Yours sincerely, HUGH HANLEY. St Joseph's, Tilston Road, Maipas, Cheshire SY14 7DD. February 27.

The emphasis would not be on punishment (as in prison) or "illness" and "treatment" (as in hospital) but on inducing a sense of responsibility, on growing up, and on a general change

Yours faithfully, ANDREW WILSKI

There is little doubt that in the longer term, when normal neighbourly relations are restored, it will be in the interest of both our countries but particularly of Eritrea, as Ethiopia is virtually its only customer - to restore also the function of the Red Sea ports as the channel of choice for Ethiopian exports and imports.

I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that Ethiopia did not unilaterally break the moratorium on air attacks. On June 5 Eritrean warplanes bombed Adigrat, narrowly missing a fuel depot. The next day the scale of their attack at Badme imposed this current outbreak of war on the Ethiopian forces, whose re-straint in the face of Eritrean provocation until that point had been remarked in UN Security Council Resolution 1226 (1999).

Yours sincerely, BEYENE NEGEWO. Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, 17 Princes Gate, SW7 1PZ. February 19.

Catholics and charity

From the Principal of St Benedict's College, Colchester

Sir, Catholic schools have long had grave misgivings about Red Nose Day (report, March 2). Many Catholics are concerned over the possible use of Comic Relief funds for morally dubious family-planning projects.

Another reason why Red Nose Day

often not encouraged in Catholic schools is that the Friday chosen always falls in Lent. Catholic schools generally use the penitential period of Lent as a time of charity fundraising for disadvantaged people in the poorest countries of the world.

Yours faithfully, ALAN WHELAN, Principal, St Benedict's College. Norman Way, Colchester. Essex CO3 3US. March 2

daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Letters to the Editor should carry a

Partnership a key to rail success

From the Director General of the Association of Train Óperating Companies

Sir, Last week's rail summit in London may have produced adverse com-ment (article, "Fat control-freaks". February 26; see also leading article. same day), but it also had some very

constructive outcomes. The Government has put rail at the top of its priorities, and its shared commitment with the industry to make the railways work better must

help to ensure ultimate success. The new head of the Strategic Rail Authority, Sir Alastair Morton, exhibited a welcome realism and determination to mobilise the industry to deliver the Government's (and the

public's) demands. Encouraging progress has been made towards implementing the ten-point plan hammered out between the industry and the Deputy Prime Minister at the first summit in November: a national punctuality task force has undertaken a detailed analysis of the causes of delays; hundreds of new drivers have been trained and are in training; a new training system is being set up to tackle the shortage of experienced operations and timetable planners; reliability action groups have been set up to reduce the 20 per cent of delays caused by mechanical breakdowns; new trains are being delivered in increasing numbers; and a completely new timetable planning

process has been devised. As the process of restoring railway performance continues, the historic decline in rail usage has been reversed: subsidies to the rail industry are declining while investment in the rail infrastructure is at a 20-year high. Fares are going down in real terms. Passenger numbers have grown by 7 per cent per annum for the past two

Long-term investment is the key to coping with this growth and we welcome the Government's commitment to working in partnership with the industry to deliver it.

Yours sincerely, JAMES GORDON, Director General, Association of Train Operating Companies, 3rd Floor 40 Bernard Street, WCIN IBY.

Deregulating radio

From the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Commercial Radio Companies Association

Sir, I enjoyed Peter Barnard's deregulatory broadside, "Looking for a licence to thrill" (article, Vision, February 27). His conclusion that all radio should be less regulated sounds ideal, but I should point out that this association has never argued that BBC Radio should be regulated by the Radio Authority.

The self-regulating, publicly-funded BBC has five national and 40-odd local stations cross-promoting themselves fit to bust with two national television stations all under single

ownership. The independently regulated commercial radio sector has three national and about 215 local stations of which a single owner cannot own more than 15 per cent of potential audience.

To balance that situation out requires less ownership regulation of the latter and, ideally, independent regulation of the former.

With best wishes. Yours sincerely, PAUL BROWN, Chairman and Chief Executive. Commercial Radio Companies Association. 77 Shaftesbury Avenue, WIV 7AD. March I.

Brit-spotting

From Mrs Rosemary Fernández

Sir, Some years ago my late stepfather lost his way on a pre-dinner stroll in Yugoslavia. Thinking he would be more easily understood, he asked a young fellow in French for directions back to his hotel. The reply came also in French, but

with a question "and how far from Hull do you live?" (letters, January 29-March I).

Absolutely spot on, my stepfather was born in Hull and had spent his

early years there.

ROSEMARY FERNANDEZ, 45 Cumberlands, Kenley, Surrey CR8 5DX. March I.

From Miss Jane Robinson

Sir, I came across this extract from Hints to Lady Travellers by Lillias Campbell Davidson the other day, which might be of some comfort:

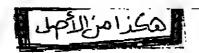
(1 (2)

現るの様である

The days are, happily, now long past when the cherished tradition of the English-woman, that one's oldest and worst garments possessed the most suitable characteristics for wear in travelling, excited the derision of foreign nations, and made the British female abroad an object of terror and avoidance to all beholders,

And the date? 1889.

Yours faithfully, JANE ROBINSON, Dragon Cottage. Dragon Tail, Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP178AR. March I.





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 3: His Excellency Baron William Oswald Bentinck van Schoonheten was received in audience by The Queen today and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letter of Credence as Ambassador of The Netherlands to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy: Baron Gerhard CM van Pallandt (Minister Plenipotentiary), Mr Ronald Brouwer (Minister Plenipotentiary. Economic Af-fairs). Captain Willem T. Lansink (Defence, Naval and Air Attaché), Colonel Hubertus J. Bonsel (Military Attache), Jonkheer Peter W.A. Bas Backer (Political Counselor and Consul General), Miss Hilde R. Jansen (Counsellor, Press and Cultural Affairs), Miss Maria J. Boomkamp (1st Secretary, Customs) and Mr Timo S. Koster (Ist Secretary, Economic Affairs).

Baroness Bentinck van Schoon-heten was also received by The Sir John Kerr (Permanent Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was

The Honourable Mr Justice Gillen was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court of Northern ireland when Her Majesty con-ferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with

the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor.
His Excellency Choi Dong-Jin
was received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador of Korea to the Court of St James's. Mrs Choi was also received by

The Ousen. The Right Hon Tony Blair, MP, (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 3: The Duke of Edinburgh, Freeman and Livery Member of the Court of Assistants, this evening attended The Worshipful Company of Fishmongers' Livery Dinner at Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge, Landon EC4. ST JAMES'S PALACE March 3: The Prince of Wales.

Patron, Soil Association, this afternoon hosted a reception for the BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 3: The Duke of York this morning visited the British Consu-

late-General and British Council and was received by Mr Fred Winter, Consul-General. Later, His Royal Highness opened the "Designing Tomorrow exhibition at the British Consulate-

General. Afterwards. The Duke of York opened the Castrol Vietnam Limited New Head Office in District I. Later, His Royal Highness visited the Saigon Children's Charity in

Thang Long School.
This afternoon The Duke of York lunched with the Ho Chi Minh Chapter of the British Business Group in Vietnam. Afterwards, His Royal Highness opened the Deha Juice Facto-

Later, His Royal Highness opened the BP Petco "Street Vision" Exhibition at the Metropolitan Building, District 1.

ry. Long An Province.

This evening His Royal Highness attended a dinner given by the Chairman of the Ho Chi Minh People's Committee, Mr Vo Viet BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 3: The Prince Edward this afternoon attended a meeting of the English-Speaking Union in Palm Beach, Florida, United States of America

BUCKINGHAM PALACE BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 3: The Princess Royal this
morning visited Oracle Corporation UK's Headquarters at Oracle
Parkway, Thames Valley Park,
Reading, Berkshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the Royal County of
Berkshire (Mr Philip Wroughtort).
Lieu Paral Liebterer. Persident

Her Royal Highness, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, today visited Reading and Central Berkshire Carers Centre "Support for Rural Carers" event at Theale Medical Centre, Engle field Road, and The Kirby Room St Luke's Church, Englefield Road Theale, Berkshire.

The Princess Royal this after-noon opened Bradbury House, Berkshire Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre Limited's new Centre at 23a August End Spot Clarifornia 23a August End, Stock Gardens, Reading, Berkshire. Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, after-

wards attended a Reception for Wessex Walks Volunteers at Buckham Palace, KENSINGTON PALACE

March 3: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, RSAS AgeCare, this evening attended the Fourth Annual Jacqueline du Pre Charity Concert, Wigmore Hall, London Wl.

Today's royal engagements

The Oueen will visit the Young Vic Theatre, 66 The Cut, London SEI, and meet local children attending a theatre workshop at 10.10; will visit the Lyceum Theatre, 21 Wellington Street, London WCZ at 10.40: will visit the Almeida Theatre, Islington, at 11.25 and will see rehearsals of Spear and David Hare's Plenty, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will visit Street, London NWI, at 1215 and will attend a luncheon hosted by the Society of London Theatre at The Ivy restaurant, West Street. London WCI at 1.00. The Queen will visit Rada, 18 Chenies Street, London WCI, to see classes in session at 2.45; and, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will attend a performance of Oklahoma at the Lyceum Theatre, 21 Wellington Street, London WC2E, at 7_30.

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit the Royal National Theatre, South Banks, SEI, to see the technical refurbishment of the Cottesloe Theatre at 10.10; will attend a rehearsal for Chicago at the Adelphi Theatre, The Strand, London WC2, at 10.50; will visit the Royal Court Youth Theatre at the Duke of York's Theatre, West Street, St Martin's Lane, London WC2, at 11.30; and will visit

Central Saint Martin's College of Art and Design. Southampton Row, London WCI, to see design and theatre training courses at

The Prince of Wales will visit Brickfields Pond, Rhyl, North Wales, at 11.00; will visit Cefndy Enterprises Healthcare at 11.50; will visit Penhedir Farm, near Mold at 12.50 and visit Ruthin

The Princess Royal, president, Riding for the Disabled Association, will attend the council meeting at Saddlers' Hall. 40 Gutter Lane, Cheapside, London EC2, at 10.55. Later, as parron, the Basic Skills Agency, she will attend a residential meeting at Chehenham Park Hotel, Cirencester Road, Cheltenham, at 6.30.

Royal Warrant Holders

The following have been elected officers of the Royal Warrant Holders Association for the ensu-

President, Mr Roger Mitchell, managing director, Holland & Holland; Vice-President, Mr Holland: Vice-President, Mr Michael Skinner, chairman, J. Dege & Sons: Hon Treasurer, Sir Richard George, chairman and managing director, Weetahix.



FRAMED through a gallery ladder, two versions of the *Finding of Moses* hang side by side in an exhibition on the poetic Italian painter Orazio Gentileschi [1563-1639], which opened at the National

Gallery yesterday, writes Dalya Alberge. The show coincides with a discovery by a French novelist about the man who raped the artist's daughter, Artemisia one of the first women artists in history.

A well-documented trial took place in
1612 after she was attacked by Agostino Tassi, an artist-friend of her father's at the Papal court. After five years' research, Alexandra Lapierre has overturned the long-held assumption that he was never

Mr and Mrs Martin

A memorial service to celebrate the

A celebration of the life of Alistair

Cumming, British Airways Chief Operating Officer and Director of

Engineering, who died in Decem-ber, will be held at Technical Block

A. Hatton Cross, Heathrow Air-

port on March 26 at 11.00am. Light

refreshments will be held after-

please write or fax to Ron Scobling,

Head of Communication Services,

Waterside (HCB3), PO Box 365,

Harmondsworth, UB7 OGB. fax

Sir David Barnes, chief executive,

Zeneca Group, 63; Professor Sir

Alan Battersby, FRS, Professor of Organic Chemistry, 74; Sir Arthur Bryan, former Lord-Lieutenant of

Staffordshire, 76; Mr Nicholas

Coleridge, journalist, 42: Mr Kenny Dalglish, football manager, 48; Mr Graham Dowling, cricketer, 62; Miss Sarah Evans, Headmis-

tress, King Edward VI High

School for Girls, 46; Mr Harvey

Goldsmith, impresario, 53; Mr Jeff

Grayshon, rugby league player, 50; Mr Bernard Haitink, KBE,

conductor, 70; Mr John Hunt,

former Headmaster, Roedean

School, 67; Mr Howard Hughes,

former World Managing Partner.

Price Waterhouse, 61; Lord John-

ston of Rockport, 84; Mr Raiph

Kirshbaum, cellist, 53; Mr Stuart Mawson, otolaryngologist, 81; Mr

Patrick Moore, astronomer, 76;

Ms Jane Reynolds, chief executive,

Royal Masonic Benevolent Institu-

tion, 46; Mr Alan Sillitoe, writer, 71; Mr Peter Skellern, composer

and singer, 52: Sir Keith Stuart,

chairman, Associated British Ports Holdings, 59.

Birthdays today

wards. For further information.

Seymour-Smith

April 11, at 2.30.

0181 738 9839.

convicted. She discovered a piece of paper which proves that he was in fact sentenced to five years' exile from Rome. A novel based on her research,

Artemisia, is to be published next year by Chatto and Windus. She said yesterday: "I'd been researching her in many archives, including the State Archives of Rome." Somehow a slip of paper had become separated from folders on the trial, she said: "The paper had been mislaid among other papers of the time. You should have heard my scream when I found it in a silent room."

Artemisia, she said, underwent an extraordinary battle, particularly since

Tassi was a major artist of his day: "A the time, he was doing the palace of the Pope, so to convict him was very difficult. For nine months of the trial, she was tortured in front of him. They put ropes around her hands, which they tightened to make her talk. She suffered the torture to prove to the judges that she was telling the truth."

Gabriele Finaldi, a curator at the National Gallery, described the discovery as a significant development.

The exhibition on Gentileschi, who

painted some of his finest works as Court Painter to Charles L runs at the National Gallery until May 23.

Memorial service

vigel Horn (grandchildren), Miss Jessica Inorieston and Gaura Horn (great grand-

children,
Mr and Mrs Joe Dezn (brother-in-law
and sizer-in-law), Mrs Sylvia Douglas-Withers (sizer-in-law), Mrs Nora Miller, Mr
John Kaine, Mrs Diane Davke, Mr Gruham
Menpies-Kitchin, Mrs Claru Menzies-Kitchin, Mrs Claru Menzies-Kitchin, Mrs Claru Menzies-Kitchin, Mrs et Hora, Mrs Sally Freedman, Mr
and Mrs Michael Essex, Mr David Sm. Mr
and Mrs Roxy O'Neill, Mr Christopher
Dean,

Dean, Mr and Mrs Timothy Dean, Mr and Mrs Priers Dibben, Miss Suzamah Dibben, Mr Sesphen Lawrence, General Sir Occi and Lady Blacker, Mr and Mrs Philip Blacker, Mrs C Kem, Mrs Lena Ommas, Mrs Skilly de la Paria, Mrss Puppy O'Shaughnessy, Mrs Dorosby Fielding, Mr Tom Hotbrook, Miss Helena Lycos, Miss Joanua Hornsby.

Cristogeness, Mist Pickens Lyons, Mist Joanna Hornsby.

The Earl of Longiurd, Viscoums Simon, the Right Rev Lord Runnie, the Right Rev Dy R D Say, Lord Acton, Lord Archer of Sendwell, QC, 100 Rev Lord Beaumont of Whitley, Lord Bleine, Lord Beaumont of Whitley, Lord Brougham and Vanz, Lord Rune of Dunington, Baroness Carregy of Lour, Lord Carter, Field Marshall Lord Corver, Buroness Castle of Bhathurn, Lord Cledwyn of Penninos, Ch. Lord Grakiton of Edmonton, Lord Hardy of Wath, Lord Hogge of Cumbernauld, Lord Houses, QC, Lord Hughes.

Baroness Leger, Lord Lenkins of Hill-head, OM, Lord Judd, Lord Laming, Lord Locas of Chilworth, Baroness Mallailes, QC, Lord Milner of Least, Lord Molloy, Lord and Lady Murray of Epping Rorest, Lord and Lady Murray of Epping Rorest, Lord and Lady Murray of Epping Rorest, Lord Corv.

The Rev Lord Soper

lives of Janet Seymour-Smith (née de Glanville) and Martin Sey-mour-Smith will be held at St The Lord Chancellor was represented by the Clerk of the Parlia-James's, Piccadilly, on Sunday, ments at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of the Rev Lord Soper held yesterday in Westminster Abbey. The Dean of Alistair Cumming Westminster officiated, assisted by

> The Rev David Cruise, Superintendent Minister of the West London Mission, led the prayers. Miss Catherine Jenkins, grand-daughter, and Lady Williams of Crosby read the lessons. Mr Colin Welland and Mr Christopher Kent gave readings. Mr Tony Benn, MP, read an extract from The Tribune, January 25, 1974. The Rev Dr Colin Morris preached the

the Rev Dominic Fenton, Precen-

The Rev Professor Peter Stephens, President of the Methodist Conference, paid tribute. Canon Robert Wright, Chanjain to the Speaker, Canon Anthony Harvey. Sub-Dean, Canon David Hunt, Canon Steward, and Canon Charles McGowan, representing minster, were robed and seated in the Sacrarium.

The Prime Minister was repre-

sented by Lord Carter. The Speaker, Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, KG, and the High Bailiff of Westminster Abbey attended. Among others present were:

The Hon Mrs Arm Horn and the Hon Mrs Bridges Kemmis (daughters), Mr and the Hon Mrs Terence Shacker and Mr and the Hon Mrs Alan Jenkins (some-in-law and daughters), Mr and Mrs David Charleston, Mr Patrick Kemmis, Mrs Meissa Horn, Mr Andrew Horn, Mr Xan Stacker, Miss

BIRTHS: Henry the Navigator,

Biki HS: Henry the Navigator, Portuguese patron of voyages of discovery. Porto, 1394; Antonio Vivaldi, composer, Venice, 1673; Giovanni Schiaparelli, astronomer, Savigliano, Italy, 1835; Jim Clark, world champion racing driver, Berwickshire, 1936.

Anniversaries

QC, Lord Milner of Leeds, Lord Molloy, Lord and Lady Murray of Epping Rorest, Lord Ornst, Lord Selbon of Garston, Baroness Seroita, Lord Simon of Garston, Baroness Seroita, Lord Simon of Glaidals, Lord Taylor of Blackburn, Lord Taylor of Geyste, Lord Varley, Lord Weatheril, Lady Wilson of Riewauts. Mr Robert Sheldon, MP, Sir Robert and Lady Clarke, Sir Michael Checktand (NCH Action for Chidren) and Lady Checktand, Sir Geoffrey de Ballizigue.

Mrs Margaret Parker (Vice-President of the Methodist Conference) with the Rev Tim Boocok, the Rev Suart Burgess, the Rev Dr Nigel and Mrs Callinson. Miss Megan Croise, Mrs David Croise, the Rev Peer Graws, the Rev Dr Leslie Griffiths, the Rev Dr Stuart Jordan, Mrs Colin Morris, the Rev

DEATHS: Saladin, Sultan of Egypt 1175-73, Damascus, 1193; William Willett, originator of day-light saving, Chislehurst, Kent, 1915; Sir Charles Shervington, physiologist, Nobel laureate 1932, Eastbourne, 1952, William Carlos

Williams, physician and poet, Rutherford, New Jersey, 1963,

King Henry VI was deposed by

Methodist Recorder, the Voluntary Enzhanasia Society, the Christian Socialist Movement, the International Priendship League,
the Women's Network of the Methodist
Church, the Methodist Sacramental Fellowthing, the Brotherhood and Slaterhood
Movement, Shelter.

The Muscular Dystrophy Group, Priends
of Iran Aid, Women's Link, the British Red
Cross, the Fellowship of Reconciliation,
England, the Super Debating Society,
Unison, tine Haberdashers' Company, Labour Action lay Pencs, the Methodist Local
Preachers' Munual Aid Association, Wesley
House, Haberdashers' Aske Hatchana Colege, the East Anglia District and Lowestoft
and East Sofiolit Circuit, Help the Aged, the
Nairos In Soho League, St Cadistrine's
College, Cambridge, and menny other Friends
and Incore colleagues.

Edward Duke of York (King Edward IV), 1461, and restored October, 1470.
The first meeting of Congress was held in New York, 1789.
The RNLI was founded, 1824. The Forth Bridge was opened,

The first North Sea gas was piped ashore off the Durham coast, 1967.

Palace lunch

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh gave a hmch party at Buckingham Palace yesterday. The guests were:

Mrs Lindsay Driscoll (solicitor). Dame Diana Rigg (actress), Professor Sir David Davies, FRS, (chief scientific adviser, Ministry of Defence). Mr Richard Dorment (art critic. The Daily Telegraph), Mr Jeff Hamblin (chief executive, British Tourist Authority). Sir Donald Irvine (president, General Medical Council), Mr Charles Miller Smith chief executive, ICI), and Air Marshal Sir Peter Squire (Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (designate) Strike Command).

Luncheons

Insurance Institute of Londor The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Alderman and Sheriff Gavyn Arthur, was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the Insurance Institute of London held yesterday at the Mansion House. Ms Patricia Hewitt, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, was the principal speaker, and Mr Dieter Losse. president of the institute, was in the chair.

Association

Mr Donald Anderson, Chairman of the United Kingdom branch of the Coromonwealth Parliamentary Association, was the host at a huncheon given yesterday at the House of Commons by the executive committee in honour of Commonwealth Parliamentarians at-sending the 1999 Parliamentary Seminar at West

Service dinner Cambridge University Air

Squadron
The Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire and the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University attended the annual dinner of Cambridge University Air Squadron held last night in Duxford. Air Marshal C.C.C. Coville, Deputy Command-er-in-Chief, Allied Forces Central Europe, was the principal guest. Squadron Leader D.P. Calvert, Squadron Commander, presided.

Dinners

BMA The Secretary of State for Health was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the Chief Officers of the British Medical Association at BMA House last night.

Cornhill Club Sir David Rowland, Deputy Chair-man of the National Westminster Bank, was the guest speaker at the annual dinner of the Cornhill Club held last night at the New Connaught Rooms. Mr Phil Pickard, deputy chairman of the club, presided. Sir Brian Pinnan, president, attended.

University news

Leeds Richard Williams, BSc (Eng), PhD (Imperial College, London), has been appointed to a Chair of Mineral Process Engineering in the Department of Mining and Mineral Engineering, and Director of the new Centre for Particle and Colloid Engineering, Professor Wil-liams was previously Professor of Mineral Engineering at the University of Exeter, Camborne School of Mines. Neil Meredith, BDS, MSc. PhD

(London), PhD (Gothenburg), has been appointed to a Chair of Biomaterials in Relation to Restorative Dentistry in the Leeds Dental-Institute. He was previously a Senior Lecturer in the Division of Restorative Demistry at the Univer-

sity of Bristol.

John Ahringham, BSc, PhD (St Andrews.) has been appointed to a Chair of Biomechanics in the School of Biology. He was previously a Reader in Comparative Physiology in the School of Biology. Physiology in the School of Biolo-

Legal appointments
Mr John Joseph Molloy has been
appointed a full-time immigration
Adjudicator from March 29 and Mrs Judith Amanda Jane Coomber Gleeson from April 19. They will

Buckingham | Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.R.G. Arthur and Miss S. Hamin

The engagement is amounced between David, son of His Honour John Arthur and the late Mrs Joan Arthur, of Caldy, Wirral, and Srirat, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hamlin, of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Mr A.M. Ashford

and Miss J. Bryan The engagement is announced between Alastair, son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Ashford, of inchenor, West Sussex, and Jacqueline. daughter of Mr and Mrs James Bryan, of Eltham, London Mr J.T. Charlton

and Dr J. Pierty The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Robin Charlian, of Potten End, Hertfordshire, and Joanna daughter of the late Mr Ronald Piercy and of Mrs Piercy, of Warwick.

Mr S.H. Moselev and Miss G.M.A. Sullivan The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Sir George Moseley and the late Lady Moseley, and Georgina, daughter of the late Major Patrick Sullivan and of Mrs Sullivan, of Barford St Michael, Oxfordshire

Mr B.A.C. Ward and Miss S.A. Sinclair The engagement is announced between Bruce, second son of Mr and Mrs Ian Ward, of Adisham, Kent, and Stephane, younger daughter of Mr Alan Sinciair and Mrs Gayle Sinciair, both of

Edinburgh. Marriage Mr A.M. Bark and Ms E.A. Lamons
The marriage took place at a family service at St Meddan's Church, Troon, Ayrshire, on Saturday, Rebruary 21, 1999.

between Adrian Bark and Elizabeth Lamont: née Locke. Church news

Canon Richard Blackburn, Vicar, Mosborough (Sheffield): so be the next Archdeacon of Sheffield (same diocese). The Rev Peter Garner, Rector, Farnham w. Scotton and Staveley

and Copprove and Arkendale (Ripon): to be also Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral (same dioceset. The Rev Colin Florseman, Priestin-Charge, Ducklington, and Oxford Diocesan Adviser in Evange-

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Charge, Great Horkesley (Chelmsford). The Rev David Horsfall, Vicar, Swadlincote (Derby): has been appointed also Rural Dean of Repton (same diocese).

The Rev Michael Langan, Priestin-Charge, South Woodham Ferters (Cheimsford): to be Rector, Overstrand, Northrepps, Side-strand and Trimingban (Nor-The Rev Edmund Lee, Assistant

Curate, Malden St James (Southwark): to be Team Vicar, Mortlake w. East Sheen (same diocese). The Rev John Mann, NSM. Springfield All Saints (Cheimsform: has been appointed also Rural Dean of Chebnsford North (same diocese). The Rev Martin Miller, Assistant

Curate, Learnington Priors St Paul (Coventry): to be Assistant Curate. Bermondsey St Anne (Southwark). The Rev Michael Newbon, Assistant Curate, Bedford St John and St. Leonard (St Albans): to be incum-. bent, Luton St Francis (same

diocese). The Rev Stephen Nuth, Curate, Wadhurst, and Stonegate (Chichester): to be Rector, Marks Tey w. Aldham and Little Tey (Cheims-

ford).
The Rev Tony Shepherd, Vicar, High Harrogate St Peter (Ripon): to be also Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral (same diocese). The Rev Nigel Simpson, Curate,
Torrisholme the Ascension w.
Westgate St Martin of Tours
(Blackburn): to be Priest-in-charge,
Ravensthorpe St Saviour and Thornhill Lees Holy Innocents

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

BIRTHS

PERSONAL COLUMN

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home people get caught in their sine straight away, even before the time of judgement. But other people's sine don't show up until later. It is the same with good deeds. Some are easily seen, but none of them can be had-den. I Timothy 5.24-25 (CEV).

BABER DAY - On Saturday 27th February 1999 at The John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford to Alison and Darren, a daughter, Lydia Dora Eloise. SARRY - On Wednesday February 24th to Susan (née Piumley) and James, a daughter, Henrietta.

DARCHES-RITEAU - On Friday 26th February 1999 at The Portland Hospital, Nathalie and Bertrand are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Chice.

DOXON - On February 27th to Duicle (née Fairhurst) and Jonathan, a son, Mark

FITCH KEMP - On February 24th at St Paul's, Cheltenham to Tracy and Mark, a son, Raiph Edward William, a brother for Emma and Flona.

HALE-On March 1st, in Bordeaux, to Vitaline and Timothy, a daughter, Tanya Virginia, a sister for Stéphane and William.

1999, to Peter and Carola (née Brock), a daughter. Philippa Rebecca. JACK - On let March at St Mary's, Paddington, to Elizabeth (née Shorten) and Roderick, a son, Rory William, a brother for

Patrick and Isobel

HERRING - On March 1st

KERR - On February 20th to Amenda and Lattrie, a daughter Lucy Charlotte Christina, a sister for Oliver.

Meclifical - On 1st March 1999, to Dominique (née Martens) and David, a son Ludovic Peter, a brother MELLOR - On 28th Februar to Tracey and Jon, a son, Joseph Michael Peter, a brother to Thomas,

PAILSON - On February 28th in Amstelveen, the Netherlands to Jobile (née Cossette) and David, a daughter, Emmuella Hannsh, a sister for William and Lily.

RESTON - On 26th rees ion - on sen February 1999 to Samentha (née Musgrave) and Rupert, a beautiful daughter, India-Rose Matida.

OBINSON - On 2nd March 1999 to Anna (née Flemin and Paul, twin daughters Hannah Rose and Lucy Crace, sisters for James,

SABHARWAL - On February 27th at The Portland Hospital to Gebrielle and Sunil, a daughter, izabelle a stater for Nicholas.

SELLORS - On 17th Februar at St Thomas' Hospital to Clare (née Peacock) and Jonathan, a son, Jack Alexander Holmes, a

DEATHS

ATTER - Betty (Frances Lillian, alse Turner, formerly Thompson), at Catarism on 2nd March 1999 aged 84 years. Wide of Douglas Atter and Robert Thompson. Beloved mother of Stewart, Margaret and Susan and lowing grandmother. Cremation service at the Surrey and Sussex Cremetorium, Crawley on Monday 8th March at 4,00pm. Family flowers only please, but donations, if desired, may be sent to SSAFA c/o WA Truelove and Son, 187 Croydon Road, Caterham CR3 6FH. Telephone 0188

BARNES - Harry of
Distington, Cumbria, but
rooted in Southampton, on
Sunday 28th February.
Much loved husband and
best friend of Berhara.
With thanks to all the staff
of Ullawater One, West
Cumberland Hospital.
Dopatione in his memory
to the RSPB, Sandy,
Bedfordshire for work at
Leighton Moss, Silverdale.

BROWN - Sebastian Hobert Composer passed away February 28th. Funeral at Eastbourne Crematorine Testiourpe Crematorium
Tuesday March 9th,
1.15pm. Piowers to
Saranity Undertaker, tel
01323 736446 or donation
to PES Members Fund,
29/33 Berners Street,
London WIP 4AA.

RUCE - Merlin, Com OBE, RN (ret'd) aged 89
years, in Oxford on
February 27th after a short
iliness. Thanksgiving
service in Oxford to be CASTIE - Joan, aged 84, dearly loved mother of Kenyon and Simon, died pescefully on 1st March 1999 at St Catherine's Hospice, Crawley. Cremation 3.15 pm, 9th March, at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium. Family flowers only, but donations to the Red Cross would be greatly appreciated.

CLAPK - Ernest Joseph
Redvers (Nobby), formerly
of Betchworth and
Ashtead, Surrey, On 1st
March 1999, pescalily in
his 98th year. Loved by his
late wile isobel and will be
sadly missed by his son
and daughter, their
Inmilies and his many
friends. Funeral Service
will take place on Monday
15th March at Randalls
Park Crematorium,
Leatherhead at 2,30pm,
Family flowers only but
donations, if desired for
the Mouth and Foot
Painting Artists may be
sent to Shericck and Sons,
Trellis House, Durking
RH4 ZES, 01306 382258.

SRAHAM - Betty. Pescefully in hospital after a short illness. Loving wife of Smart Graham, mother of Nell and devoted Neil and devoted grandmether of Georgias and Belinda. Funetal will take place at Beckenham Crematorium on Tunaday 11th March 1989 at 3.00pm Family flowers only. Donations if desired to St Chieferbart Homita. Donations if desired to St Christopher's Hospics, c/o H Copeland & Son, 9 Bromley Road, Beckenham BR3 5NT. Telephone 0181 650 2295.

GRIERI-Noal Kingsley of Twyford, Berkshire peacafully on 2nd March aged 90 at Glebe House Nursing Home, Almondsbury, Bristol. Private service at Westerleigh Cresnatorium North Bristol on 9th March at 2.00pm. No flowers but donations if desired to Cancer Research Campaign c/o L & J Culwell, 1 Quaker Lane, Thornbury, Bristol BS35 2DU.

HAMB TON-RUSSELL Brigadier The Hon. R.G.
(Dick) Hamilton-Russell,
late 17th/21st Lancers,
pescafully on 2nd March
1999 - aged 90. Devoted
husband of the late Pamel
(note Cayzer) and much
loved lather of Brian,
Richard and Veronica,
grandfather and greatgrandfather. Privata
cremation. Funeral
Service at Aston Bottereil
Church, Burwarton,
Bridgnorth, Shropshire at
2.00pin on Tuesday 23rd
March.

MARIMOND - Reverend Canon Peter. Born 1921, Bromley. Died lat March 1999, Lincoln. Three sons. 1995 Sunflower (1941–43). HM6 Sunflower (1941-43).
Author, Liturgy and
Architecture', Lecturer,
Hull Art College.
Memorial Service 2.30pm
Mouday 8th March at
Lincoln Cathadral follows
private cremation.
Enquiries to Co-operative
Funeral Service, 12
Portland Street, Lincoln.
01522 534971.

JOSES - On 2nd March after a long illness, Jean Marjorie, aged 89. Belove wife of the late D. Carroll wife of the late D. Carroll Jones, much loved mother of Bridget Murray and the late Richard, a devoted grandmother of Susan. Andrew and Flous. Funeral service at Pinner Parish Church, Church Lane, Pinner on Monday 8th March at 12.15pm. followed by cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired to, Priends of Pinner Parish Church or Michael Sobell House of Bradley & Jones 7 Love Lane, Pinnet. Middlesex HAS 3EE.

KERR-John (Igck) on 27th
February in Dorchester,
suddenly after a fall, aged
33. Devoted father of
Leurence and Martin and
grandfather of Junes and
Timothy, Service of
Thanksgiving at St
Andrew's, Melcombe
Horsey, Dorset at 1.00pm
on Theaday 9th March
followed by committal at
Weymouth Creamtorium.
No Bowers, donations to
St Andrew's Church,
Melcombe Horsey to be
sent to Woods (Dorchester)
Ltd. 11A Jose Way,
Dorchester, Dorset DT1
1EW. Tel 01305 262666

To place death notices, acknowledgements

or notices please call

0171 680 6880

LENDGREN - ORE FCA
Frederick William died
peacefully on 26th
February 1999. Beloved
instead of Marry, father of
Barbera, Sylvia and Davi
and much loved
grandfather and greatgrandfather Frunsval
Service on Tuesday 9th
March at 1.30 pm at
Southampton Southampton Cramatorium, Family

Creastorium, Family flowers only, but donations for RAF Association Susses, Down Home or Old Camdenians Club (Holloway School Old Boys) may be sent to F C Rughes Funeral Directors 48 St Johns Road, Hedge End, Southampton.

MAIRICE - Phyllia, HMI
Education 1947 - 1970,
died 20th Februsry 1999.
Her Chief Impactor of the
time said of her work 7 do
not know of any infant
school in the country
which did not look
forward to her visit and
feel better for her presence
in their school. The
thankegiving service will thankraiving service will take place at Berrow Parish Church, Burrow, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk at 2pm on 9th March followed by the Committal the the Cremeterium, Risby.

NUTTING - The Rt Hog Sir Anthony Bt PC - the funeral will be held at 3pm today 4th March at Holy Trimity Brompton, family and friends welcome. All enculries to Legarton and

PAIMER - Phoebe van
Someren died peacefully.
In her ninetieth year on
March 2nd, Much fowed
wife of the late Lt Colone
George Archdale Paime,
mother of Fenella and
Anthes and grandmother
of Miles, Sebestian and
Hugh, Funeral Tuesday
9th March, 3.00pm, St
Mary's Westwell,
Oxfordshire.

PHEFS - Richard Montague, on 25th February 1899, aged 89, while travelling in the Indian Ocean. Adored father of Anthony, Christopher, Julis and David. Grandfather of six, greet grandfather of four. Puneral at St Peter's, Lodwurth, near Petworth, West Sussex on Wednesday 10th March at midday. Family flowers only please. Any donations to the YMCA, c/o LF Lintott & Son, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9DG (01730 812284).

SSECLAR - Dr. John Alan died peacefully at Dene Place Nursing Home, West Horsley 3nd March 1999 aged 90 years. Former GP in Puthey and Rochempton. Will be greatly missed, Puneral service at Guildford Crematorium at 11.30cm Monday 8th March. No flowers please. Donations to Parkinson Disease Society via Robert Ayling F/D, 25-27 South Road, Guildford, GUZ 6NY, telephone: 01482 567333.

The second secon

SPENCER - Anthony Lucas on Sunday 28th February peacefully after a long filness borne with great courage. Beloved father of Jonathan, dearly loved brother and uncle. Funeral at 2.30 pm on Thursday 11th March at St Thomas the Apostle, Lymington, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations to The British Lung Foundation, 78 Hatton Garden, London ECIN 8IR.

TAIBOT - Benjamin Robert
Chatwynd suddenly on
26th February at St Marys
Hospital Isle of Wight,
Private cramation, Service
of Remembrance at St
Lukes Bembridge on
Monday 8th March at 3pm.
Family Rowers only,
Donations to Cancer
Research c/o Weaver Bros.
Ltd. Bembridge I.W. 01983
872598.

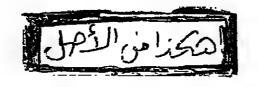
THOMAS-FERRAND - David
Lt Commander. R.N.
(rufd), peacefully with
(rufd), peacefully with
fortitude 2nd March 1999,
tressured husband of
Sylvia, beloved father of
Cherry, Rossmund and
John Much fowed
grandfather. Funeral
service 10.30 am Saturday
fich March at \$t Elidyr's
Church, Amroth followed
by cremation at Parc
Cwyn Crematorhum,
Narberth 11.30 am. Family
flowers only but denations
if desired to King George
V Fund For Sallora, e/o
Barclays Bank,
Haverfordwest,
Pembrokoshire, \$A61
27A.

YORATH - Elizabeth Murre
Vansittart died pescefully
on Saturday 27th
February, much loved
mother, graudmother and
great-grandmother.
Funeral at St Thomas of
Canterbury, East Clandon
at 2.30 pm on Wednesday
10th March Donardons to
HUG, 41 Bridge Street,
Hereford, HR4-HDG. THANKSGIVING SERVICES

MANUELS - A Service of
Thombegiving for the life
of Charles John Robert
Manners CRE, DL, 10th
Duke of Entland will be
held at the Guarda Chapel,
Wellington Barracks on
Thursday, the 18th of
March 1999 at 11 am.
Those wishing to attend
abould apply for tickets
and a car pass if required
to The Regimental
Adjutant Grenadier
Guarda, Wellington
Barracks, Birdcago Walk,
London SWIE SHO,
Applications must be
made by Monday 8th
March. BIRTHDAYS

TABA Shappy Birthday, you have: been adopted in 1970, I never stopped loving you. From Men-ted your first mother and your sisters. Jun Chesiat 514 343

SERVICES



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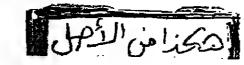
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OBITUARIES

SID **POWELL**

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Sid Powell, BEM. Prison Service trade union leader, died on February 6 aged 72. He was born on December 24, 1926.

TURBULENT industrial relations have dominated much of the difficult history of the Prison Service. Sid Powell was influential within the Prison Service trade union movement, especially in the early 1970s, when he chaired the Prison Officers Association.

He was a man of great energy, and this, coupled to his concern for people, made him a natural candidate for trade union work, in which he combined a tenacious pursuit of union objectives with a willingness to compromise on specifics. A strong leader who spoke his mind, he was neverheless careful to observe the courtesies during negotiations.

Developing an expertise in shift systems, he became a leading negotiation for the reduction of the prison officer's working week from six to five days. This was a major benefit to his members, many of whom substantially increased their earnings, but the scramble for overtime pay was to bedevil industrial relations for two decades.

la 1972, as national chairman of the trade union, Powell was confronted with widespread prisoner demonstraions, as a prisoners "union" called for improved conditions. Riots at Cartree and Albany top security prisons followed, causing growing reaction from prison staff. Powell strove to resolve the crisis, demanding improved staffing ratios. Industrial action was threatened, but only limited action took place, and Powell must take credit for that.

In 1982 he was elected Secretary of the Prison Governors' Representative Organisation, then a part of a large Civil Service union, the Society of Civil and Public Servants. Serious conflict between the governors and the union made Powell's task particu-larly difficult. In 1987, the year after he retired, the governors and senior uniformed staff combined to establish an independent trade union, the Pri-son Governors Association. Powell played a notable part in preparing for change. Sidney Thornton Powell

was born in Liverpool and educated at Florence Melly school, West Derby. On leav-ing school he joined the Merchant Navy and sailed with Cunard on Atlantic and Arctic convoys during the war. In 1947 he married Joan Loughead and applied to be-come a prison officer, joining at Liverpool's Walton Prison. After a posting to the Borstal at Camp Hill on the Isle of Wight, he returned to Liverpool in 1956 and was quickly elected to the local committee of the Prison Officers Association. As he was a natural leader, it was no surprise when he became chairman. He went on to work in a range of prisons, retiring as a grade 3 governor. He was awarded the British Empire Medal in 1976. His interest in the service continued after retirement, and he played a part in developing an organisation for retired governors. He

leaves a widow, Joan, and two

sons and a daughter.

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Dame Those Hard

Dusty Springfield, OBE, pop and soul singer, died of cancer on March 2'aged 59. She was born in

London on April 16, 1939. usty Springfield was ac-knowledged on both sides of the Atlantic as the finest female soul singer Britain has produced. Her croakily erotic voice which belied the shy vulnerable convent girl who produced it -created a string of hit records during the Sixties' beat boom. After three successful years teamed with her songwriter brother Tom as twothirds of the folk music-based group the Springfields, she made her 1963 solo debut with I Only Want to be with You, sung with jaunty fervour. It was an immediate hit, remaining in the charts for 18 weeks, and it has

endured as a pop classic.

More hits followed throughout the:
Sixties, including Stay Awhile, I Just Don't Know What to do with Myself, Losing You, In the Middle of Nowhere, and the poignant You Don't Have to Say You Love Me, which in March 1966 took her to No 1. The following year she was back in the Top Ten, at No 4 with I Close my Eyes and Count to Ten.

Dusty Springfield took her enjoyment of her fame right down to the wire in those heady years. As part of the swinging London club scene, she found she had become a model for teenage girls, who slavishly copied her startling beehive blonde hairstyle and dark "panda" eye makeup.
On concert tours she played to

packed houses, and adoring fans writhed and screamed when the myopic star appeared hesitantly from backstage to belt out her first number. The Sixties were her apogee. She consistently won the top female singer award, outshining such contemporaries as Lulu, Cilla Black and Sandie Shaw.

But the golden years did not last. Her career, spanning more than four decades, was a turbulent one even by the standards of the pop world. Persistent tabloid interest in her sexual proclivities — largely engen-dered by her confessing that she was as much attracted to women as to men - drove her to live in Los Angeles for much of the Seventies. There, although she became something of an icon for gays and lesbians, her talent was largely neglected. "I became bored with being a pop singer," she confessed. A rare success was Son of a Preacher Man, taken as a single from an otherwise stonily

received LP Dusty in Memphis. Despondent, and fighting what was to be a lifelong weight problem, she followed a downward spiral of drug and alcohol abuse. Known for her impulsive candour during interviews, she once said: "I lost nearly all the Seventies in a haze of booze and pills. I couldn't have one or two drinks. I had to get loaded. Vodka and the pills belped case my shyness.

DUSTY SPRINGFIELD



Dusty Springfield in 1964: her beehive hairdo was copied by armies of young fans

Then I got into cocaine and in seven months I was a brain-scrambled wreck."

But she went on to overcome her addictions and then revived her career, courtesy of the Pet Shop Boys, and enjoyed an inspired period in the late Eighties and Nineties. The group began by inviting her to sing on what was to become their worldwide triumph, What Have I Done to Deserve This? and went on to write much of her album Reputation. In 1994, however, she discovered

forced to cancel her singing dates and undergo surgery and months of chemo- and radiotherapy at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London. After the initial shock, her attitude was typically wry: "Why me? Why not?" she said. and added: "I never expected to live this long anyway, so it's uncharted

territory Dusty Springfield was born Mary Isabel Catherine Bernadette O'Brien in Hampstead, of Irish parents, Her father was a tax consultant and her mother, as the singer once described

escape spinsterhood; they both bitterly regretted it." Staunch Catholics, they stayed together for the children but quarrelled endiessly. Dusty recalled a troubled childhood. "I was so unhappy as a kid." She would challenge her hot-tempered father when he hit her, and she became very jealous of my brother Dion. He

was older and the blue-eyed boy."

She grew up at first in Buckinghamshire and then in Ealing, where she went to a convent school. On leaving she took a part-time job in

while joining a syrupy all-female vocal trio, the Lana Sisters, which sang mostly at air bases. In 1960 she and Dion, who was already writing songs, adopted the stage names Dusty and Tom Springfield, and launched themselves as the Spring-fields, a folk-singing duo. Dusty supplied the guitar accompaniment.

Success was elusive to begin with, but when they werejoined by Tim Feild they quickly became one of the country's top vocal groups. They had two Top Five singles with Island of Dreams (1962) and Say I Won't be There (1963), by which time Feild had been replaced by Mike Hurst. The Springfields had a million-seller in America with the country standard Silver Threads and Golden Needles (although it did nothing in Britain) before splitting up in 1963. Inspired by the ear-thumping "wall

of sound" style pioneered by the American producer Phil Spector, Dusty Springfield recorded her first solo hit, I Only Want to be with You, which got to No 4. It was the first record ever played on a new television programme called Top of the Pops.

y 1967 she was in full flow, with a string of hits including Middle of Nowhere, Some of Your Lovin', and Look of Love, which featured in the James Bond film Casino Royale. She was also a regular on the TV pop music show Ready, Steady, Go. At the time she used her celebrity to campaign on behalf of the then little-known American soul and Motown artists. Her edectic taste in music tended to set her apart from most of her peers in this country. She became popular in America, where she made numerous appearances.

In all she had 16 hits almost successively during the 1960s before her career began to falter. She exiled herself to California for 15 years, living in a two-bedroom house with up to a dozen cats for company. She made sporadic visits to Britain, each time attempting a come-back. But renewed success eluded her until 1987, at the start of her collaboration with the Pet Shop Boys (the singer Neil Tennant and keyboard player Chris Low). Not only did she have a share in the duo's No 2 hit What Have I Done to Deserve This?, but she featured on the sound track of the film Scandal, about the Profumo affair, singing their theme tune Nothing Has Been Proved.

She was still bedevilled by her past, however. In 1991 she sued and won undisclosed damages in the High Court as the result of a sketch on a television show in which the comedian portrayed her performing while

After extensive chemotherapy she was in 1995 pronounced to be clear of cancer. But the disease returned in the following year.

She was appointed OBE in the last lew Year's Honours.

FRANCES SAVIN

Frances Savin, campaigner for the family, died of cancer on February 13 aged 61. She was born on May 11, 1937.

FRANCES SAVIN was a tireless campaigner in support of the family. As a founder of the organisation Full Time Mothers, she was one of the first people to recognise the excessive tax burden on single-earner married families, especially after independent taxation of men and women was introduced. She felt that this made it more difficult for women to choose to remain at home to look after children, rather than going back to work. Though never dogmatic, she strongly believed that mothers ought not to be compelled to work by economic circum-

Brought up in Booterstown, Dublin, Frances Reynolds was educated at the Sion Hill Dominican Convent, Blackrock, and went on to University College Dublin, where she took a science degree in 1958.

In her early twenties she was one of the first female computer programmers, work-



ing in London and cutting a dash as she travelled around on her Bisa Bantem motorcycle. She married Tim Savin. who worked for BP. in 1962, and after her first child was born in 1963 she worked as a secondary school maths supply teacher and taught bridge at night classes.

In the 1970s she became increasingly saddened by what she saw as the denigration of the role of the full-time mother and the gradual elimination of tax benefits for the married two-parent family.

In 1988, when the youngest of her seven children was nine, she started an organisation called Women at Home. based on an Irish model. A year later Women at Home merged with another group of mily campaigners and Time Mothers was born. It has campaigned for recognition of the value of parents looking after children in the home and the need for the State to recognise their value to society.

Frances Savin believed strongly that real equal opportunity would not exist until women could decide for themselves how they wanted to live. and she believed transferable tax allowances would help this. So Full Time Mothers claimed a victory when the Conservatives included the introduction of transferable personal allowances in their election manifesto.

Savin chaired Full Time Mothers for three years, from 1993 to 1996, during which time it affiliated to FEFAF, the European organisation of women working in the home. This took her to meetings all over Europe, and in 1995, as a guest of the British Embassy in Buenos Aires, she attended the first congress of the World Congress of Housewives.

She never lost her love of Ireland and the sea. She swam in the sea in all weathers, sailed, played tennis and was a keen bridge player. She was a staunch Catholic and helped to prepare children for their

first communion. For many years as district co-ordinator, she helped to raise money for the St Francis Hospice, Havering-Atte-Bower in Romford, where she died. She is survived by her

husband and by her son and six daughters.

passages of description so fine that they

command the admiration of people whom much of his work disgusts. His powers range

from a rich simplicity, a delicacy almost like that of Mr W.H. Davies, to turbulent

clangour, and from tenderness to savage irony and gross brutality. There was that in

his intellect which might have made him one

of England's greatest writers, and did indeed make him the writer of some things worthy of

THE RIGHT REV NEVILLE WELCH

The Right Rev Neville Welch, the first suffragan Bishop of Bradwell. died on February 3 at the age of 92. He was born on April 30, 1906.

A MAN of true humility, Neville Welch was a faithful priest and bishop, a disciplinarian in his own life and zealous in his prayer. When the new see of Bradwell was created in the large and complex diocese of Chelmsford, his appoint-ment as the first bishop was widely welcomed. He was consecrated by Archbishop Michael Ramsey in South-wark Cathedral in 1968.

William Neville Welch was born in South Wales, the son of a priest in the diocese of Worcester and a Welsh woman who went home to her parents for the birth of her baby. The family was far from wealthy and very Victorian, so Neville and his brother and sister had a very strict upbringing. He went from Dean Close School, Cheltenham, to Keble College, Oxford, where he took his degree in history and won a half-blue.

At Oxford he discovered his vocation, and so he moved to Wycliffe Hall for his theological training. He was made deacon in 1929 and ordained a

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priest a year later, taking his title in the parish of Kidderminster in the diocese of Worcester. In those days Kid-derminster had a staff of six curates and a curate's life was tough. Each evening they would stand before the incumbent to give an account of their day, and if in his eyes it was not satisfactory they would forfeit a day off.

Kidderminster was followed by a second curacy, in the parish of St Michael, St Albans. Welch felt he had been translated from the grim to the sublime. It was here that he met and married Bunty, an artist trained at the Slade.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

SCHOOL TREST
The 46th Annual General Meeting with be held at 100 knothester Row, London SWIP 1P at 2.30 pm on Priday, 26th March, 1999. Mun-

hers can obtain copies of the Re-

Communities, St Anton, Lech, Zer-gusts & Whistler, Tel- 0181 948 2535, ATOL 2271, ASTA V4104.

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In 1934 he moved into the Chelmsford diocese, living with his family in Moulsham as he took up his next post as travelling secretary in East Anglia for the Missions to Seamen (which he later chaired). His love of the sea brought him into contact with many people as he toured around East Anglia in his Ford 7. He was to remain in the diocese of Chelmsford for

the rest of his ministry. In 1939 he was appointed chaplain to the training ship HMS Exmouth on the Thames and also vicar of Grays. He threw himself into the life of the parish, and was especially involved in wartime evacuation programmes. Four years later he was appointed to the vicarage of Ilford, responsible for the churches of St Clement. St Margaret and St Alban. He was also chaplain to St

George's Hospital. He was mayor's chaplain several times, and he took an interest in the business and professional life of Ilford. He had a staff of three curates, and here his family grew up. The churches were flourishing and the Weich home was full of people. These were years of hard work, but they were

immensely happy.

He took a keen interest in Church life at a national level. and was a Proctor in Convoca-



Welch; took a questioning and critical view of the Church

member of the Church Assembly, the predecessor of the General Synod. He was made an honorary canon of Chelmsford Cathedral in 1951.

Alison invited him to become Archdeacon of Southend and vicar of Great Burstead. The parish was run down, but he built it up, helped by a lively curate who eventually became vicar, enabling Welch to concentrate on the work of the archdeaconry. Several new parishes were established in Chelmsford and Southend, and the needs of the new town of Basildon had to be ad-

Welch's appointment to the newly created see of Bradwell

tion in 1945 and 1950 and a came after 15 years of hard and effective work as Archdeacon of Southend. Hewent on to prove himself an able Church of England bishop. He made it clear that he valued the breadth and comprehensive-In 1953 Bishop Faulkner ness of the Church but had a questioning and critical view. and was willing to challenge shallow thinking when he thought he detected it behind some development in the life of the Church.

He retired in 1973 and moved with Bunty to Norwich, where he helped in the parish of St Thomas and took up painting with enthusiasm. His wife predeceased him last year. He is survived by two sons (one of whom is ordained) and two daughters.

MR. D.H. LAWRENCE: WRITER OF GENIUS

David Herbert Lawrence, whose death is announced today, was born at Eastwood, near Nottingham, on September II, 1885. His novel Sons and Lovers and his play The Widowing of Mrs Holroyd are at least so far biographical as to tell the world that his father was a coalminer and his mother a woman of finer grain. At the age of 12 the boy won a county council scholarship; but the sum was scarcely enough to pay the fees at the Nottingham High School and the fares to and fro. At 16 he began to earn his living as a clerk. When his ill-health put an end to that, he taught in a school for miners' boys.

At 19 he won another scholarship, of which he could not avail himself, as he had no money to pay the entrance fee; but at 21 he went to Nottingham University College, and after two years there he came to London and took up teaching again. It was in these years that he wrote, under the name of Lawrence H. Davidson, some books on history. He had begun also writing fiction, and his first novel, The White Peacock, was published about a month after his mother's death had robbed him of his best and dearest friend. Sons and Lovers, published when he was

ON THIS DAY

March 4, 1930 **EDITOR**

D. H. Lawrence, one of the most powerful and controversial English writers of the 20th century, died after much ill-health when only in his forties.

28, brought him fame. Many years of poverty were to pass before his work began to make him financially comfortable. But the revolt against society which fills his books had its counterpart in his life, in his travels, and in his attempt to found, in 1923, an intellectual

and community settlement in New Mexico. Undoubtedly he had genius. He could create characters which are even obtrusively real. His ruthless interpretation of certain sides of the nature of women was recognized by some women to be just. Every one of his novels, as well as his books of travel, contains

the best of English literature. But as time went on and his tuberculosis took firmer hold, his rage and his fear grew upon him. He confused decency with hypocrisy, and honesty with the free and public use of vulgar words. At once fascinated and horrified by physical passion, he paraded his disgust and fear in the trappings of a showy masculinity. And, not content with words, he turned to painting to exhibit more clearly still his contempt for all It was inevitable that such a man should come into conflict with the law over his novel The Rainbow; over some manuscripts sent to his agent in London; and over an exhibition of his paintings. But a graver cause for regret is

that the author of Sons and Lovers, of Amores and the other books of poems, of Agron's Rod. the short stories published as The Prussian Officer, Ladybird, and Kangaroo should have missed the place among the very best which his genius might have won.



Studently

Drammer,





THE TIMES TODAY

Fraud crackdown delays benefits

■ Benefit claimants will have to wait longer to receive their money under a new crackdown on fraud to be unveiled later this month by the Social Security Secretary.

Alastair Darling is to instruct Benefits Agency staff to abandon their policy of processing claims as quickly as possible. They will instead be asked to check every detail of every application to ensure that no money is paid to bogus claimants Page 1

Massacre survivor cheats death twice

An air stewardess who survived the gorilla safari massacre has told how she booked the holiday to recover from an earlier escape from death. Dani Walthers, 26, was on a standby crew for Swissair Flight III which crashed off Halifax, Nova Scotia, in September last year, killing all 229 people on board. And onPages 1, 8, 9 Monday she escaped again ...

Dusty Springfield dies Island refugees sue

Dusty Springfield, who won fame with hits in the 1960s, has died on the day she was to have been presented with an OBE.....Page !

Euro 'stampede'

People will take to the streets in a popular uprising against the "stampede" into the single currency, the Conservative party said ... Page 2

Love rivals in court One of Britain's top horsewomen hid in a caravan while her dinner-jacketed ex-husband and her

younger lover slugged it out in the stable yard after a hunt ball, a court beard..... Page 3 Hair reveals cancer Hair could be used as a simple

screening test for breast cancer,

Dr Veronica James of the Univer-

sity of New South Wales in Syd-

ney has found.....

.....Page 4 Ballot challenge Britain is about to inaugurate its most far-reaching constitutional and electoral experiment. On May 6, voters in Scotland and

Wales will elect devolved legisla-

... Pages 6, 7 Ulster deadline doubt

Tony Blair yesterday made his bluntest call yet for IRA disarmament as Mo Mowlam conceded that next Wednesday's deadline for transferring power to Northern Ireland would probably notPage 10

A refugee who was evicted from his island home in the Indian Ocean by Britain 30 years ago was given the go-ahead to bring a High Court action against the Page ii Government.....

Soper's socialism

Lord Soper, the Methodist minister and soapbox evangelist, believed that socialism was the Kingdom of God, so far as politics and economics would allow, his memorial service at Westminster Ab-......Page 13 bey was told

Action plan revealed British troops were within minutes of moving into Kosovo as a fighting unit, after 21 international monitors were detained by Serb forces last week.......Page 16

Referees 'bribed'

Football referees overseeing big European matches expect to be supplied with £2,000-a-night callgirls, Rolex watches and fur coats for their wives, a French court

Lewinsky show aired After days of leaks about the despondency that nearly drove Monica Lewinsky to jump to her death. Americans settled down to watch the TV interview... Page 18

Mandela calls poli

President Mandela has announced that South Africa's second democratic election will be held on June 2.....

Maths reveals new twist in neck-ties

Two Cambridge physicists have applied the apparatus of mathematics to the humble neck-tie and invented six new "aesthetically-pleasing" knots. Thomas Fink and Yong Mao of the Cavendish Laboratory worked out that there are 85 knots that can be tied with a conventional tie. But many of these are too complex, and lead to unbalanced and unaesthetic results Page 1



The fashion designer Georgio Armani takes centre stage after unveiling his 1999 autumn/winter collection at his palazzo in Milan

BUSINESS

Goldman Float: Goldman Sachs. the last Wall Street investment banking partnership, is to resurrect its flotation plans in a move that will make hundreds of employees multimillionaires....Page 27 Monsanto talks: Monsanto, the controversial US company behind genetically modified soya, is reported to be considering a takeover proposal from DuPont... . Page 27

Rates unchanged: The Bank of England paused for breath yesterday, after five successive rate cuts. and left interest rates unchanged at 5.5 per cent...Page 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 13.0 points to 6048.3. The pound rose 0.19 cents to \$1.6177 and 0.16p

against the euro to 67.48p. The ster-

ling index rose to 102.5..... Page 30

Football: All of Chelsea's industry will be needed to overcome the Norwegian side Valerenga in the Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final at Stamford Bridge Page 49 Rugby union: England have made three changes for the tough match

.....Page 52 Bracken... Tennis: Patrice Hagelaver has been appointed performance director of the LTA, responsible for all national training, both men and women in senior and junior divi-Page 46

against Ireland, bringing in Matt

Perry, Paul Grayson and Kyran

Bryant's Eye: There is nothing like a good bout of exercise to work up a healthy appetite. Or is there? A lot of athletes, it turns out, are simply Page 50 not eating enough ...

Hollywood legacy: Later this month Elia Kazan will be presented with an Oscar for a lifetime's achievement in film, but some who recall the McCarthy hearings may not be applauding.....Page 36

Talk show queen: Oprah Winfrey turns in a fine performance in Beloved, but that cannot save what is an otherwise a worthy, lengthy and disappointing film.... Page 37 Dancing Don: Irek Mukhamedovstars in Kim Brandstrup's new ballet about the life of Don Juan, and the show would be unthinkable without himPage 38 US import: Colin Firth and Elizabeth McGovern star in Richard

Greenberg's American play Three Days of Rain at the Donmar

TOMORROW,

IN THE TIMES

troubleshooters assigned to

turn around Kings Manor

EDUCATION

Valerie Bragg, left,

Pity the poor press

Metropolitan Police

☐ Borders, Edinburch & Dundee

MEDIA

officers of the

Stanley Goodchild and

the husband-and-wife

Dr Thomas Stuttaford: The benefits of beta-blockers for heart patients; cigarette substitutes; a drug for children with attention deficit hyperactive disorder; sperm counts; saliva

and HIV infections Page 20 Final solution: "The images of barbarity seemed to confirm the atavistic nature of the killing. Rwanda became just another African tragedy. The truth was different. What happened was genocide - carefully planned and clinically carried out by an extremist Hutu group using army units and police to drive people from their homes and assemble them at pre-arranged places for slaughter." Linda Melvern on the horror of Rwanda..... Page 21

Favoured son: Dickens has had the good fortune that Shakespeare has not scholars squabble over the bard, but the great Victorian is well-served by collections and compendiums. Plus, Germaine Greer's new polemic and the legacy of Mar-

Without ever saying as much, the White House has escalated its air strikes against Iraq to advance the goal of toppling Saddam Hussein. if this is the new American strategy. President Clinton or the Defense Secretary William Cohen should let the American people and Congress know.

The New York Times

Preview: Access All Areas (Channel 4, 8,30pm) follows the fortunes of a troupe of male strippers known as The Half Monty Review: Joe Joseph witnesses the ultimate in playground dares....... Pages 50. 51

Completely bananas

It beggars belief that the inability of the European Union to settle a sixyear-old dispute with the United States, over a fruit that neither of them grows, could risk a global trade war. But it accords entirely : with experience that it is footdrag ging by the European Commission that is mainly to blame Page 23

Goldi

Poli position

As an aid to the new institutions and unfamiliar electoral systems. The Times today publishes a comprehensive guide to the 1999 elec-Page 23 tions...

Jam tomorrow

Dundee - a classic example of a city which fell into post-industrial decline - has become a pioneer in proving how a depressed society may pull itself back up by its boot-

ANATOLE KALETSKY

The leaders of the "moral" Right became obsessive in their pursuit of President Clinton because they saw him as a carrier of the moral infection that was destroying American society ...

MAGNUS LINKLATER

Next week is my father's centenary. I feel suddenly ancient. To have: had a 19th-century parent, born in the Victorian era ... makes one sound incredibly old Page 22

HANNAH BETTS

At the close of the 20th century the riff-raff have emerged triumphant. Oxbridge has declared itself open to students of all social, racial and religious backgrounds. The brightest and best of the nation's youth have replied with a two-fingered salute: __Page 22 THE B. C.

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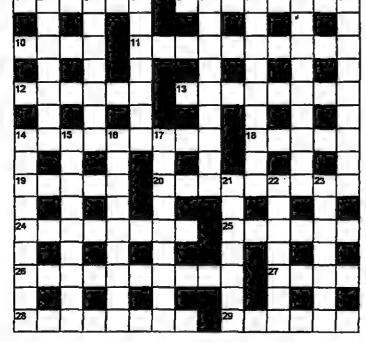
and miles Complete ...

ENGINEER OF VI

Dusty Springfield, pop singer, The Right Rev Neville Welch, first Bishop of Bradwell: Sid Powell. prison officer...

Women priesis; employment tribunals; railway improvements; millennium; regional accents; treating psychopaths; poverty; de-regulating radio: Brit-spotting......Page 23

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,042



- ACROSS 100,000 rupees, say, deposited in soldier's bank for protection (6).
 One police force operating within
- 10 Drunk? Turn red, not black (4).

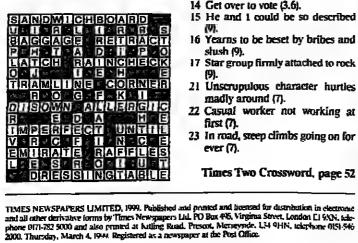
 11 Where eggs may be cooked for it

the law - that's taken for granted

- 12 A party Socialist was devoted to
- 13 Positive about animal being put
- down (8).

 14 Force to join crowd and go north of the border (5-4).
- 18 Record sound acoustically (5). 19 Port abandoned by an idiot (5).
- 20 Unseated in fact, unseated after losing weight (9). 24 Poor director to whom money is
- 25 Son frequently exhibiting temper

Solution to Puzzle No 21,041



- 26 Above board that's not uneven (2,3,5), 27 Composer learned when guided
- around (4).
- 28 Drummer in US takes drink aboard ship with crew (8).
- 29 Put out about extremely delayed

DOWN 2 Illegally transfer several articles

- from abroad (7). Associates in but
- change (7). 4 Do climb up crack (7).
- 6 Thin gloom could be dispelled in 7 As a rule, women going crazy
- over right gardening equipment 8 Bed - I will get one immediately
- after the dance (9). 9 Ottoman's topped by this orna-
- mental ropework (5.4). 14 Get over to vote (3.6).
- 15 He and I could be so described
- 16 Yearns to be beset by bribes and słush (9). 17 Star group firmly attached to rock
- 21 Unscrupulous character hurtles
- madly around (7). 22 Casual worker not working at first (7).
- 23 In road, steep climbs going on for ever (7).

Times Two Crossword, page 52

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AA Car reports by fax

HOURS OF DARKNESS

5.45 pm Moon sets: Last quarter March 10 London 5.45 pm to 6.38 am Bristol 5.55 pm to 6.48 am Edinburgh 5.52 pm to 6.55 am Manchester 5.52 pm to 6.55 am Penzance 6.08 pm to 6.58 am

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EREE BOOKS



today, the best across east and south-east England, but most parts are again at risk from sharp showers. General: there will be a few surrry spells

I London, SE, Cent S England, E Anglia, E&W Midfands: surry spells but heavy and possibly thundery showers. Ught to moderate W to SW wind. Max 10C (30F). DE England, NE England: few bright spells and some showers, possibly thur-dery, Light, variable wind. Max 8C (46F). ☐ Charatel Iss, SW England: sunny breaks and showers, possibly thundery. Fresh to strong NW wand. Max 9C (48F). □ S&M Wales, NW, Lakes, Cent N Eng-land, IoM: bright spells, heavy and thur-dery showers. Strong NW wind. Max 8C (46F).

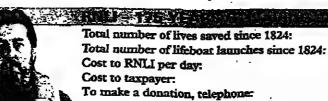
□ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, Gasgow, Morey Firtic dult. rain. Fresh N to NE wind, Max 7C (45F). □ Highlands, Orthoey, Shettand: rain, sleet, snow. Fresh N-NE wind. Max 7C (45F). □ Argytl, NW Scotland: sunshine and showers. Wind N, strong to gale Max 6C (43F). □ N tretend: sunny spells and heavy showers. Strong NW wind. Max 8C (46F). □ Republic of Iretand: sunny spells and showers, Strong NW wind. Max 9C (48F). □ Outlook: tomorrow will see little change with most ereas catching some showers again and there will be a brisk wind in the west. There may be some longer sunny spells on Saturday but it will be breezy with a continued threat of showers.

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AROUND BETTAL PENSON

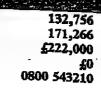
4 B 12C (54F), lowest day temp: Loch Glas Powys, 1 15m; sunnest: Guernsey, 8.4





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Changes to the chart below from noon: low A will stay stationary and fill; low B will track eastwards, merge with low C and develop; low D will run northeast and meintain its central pressure; high Y will sink southwards; high Z will drift eastwards.

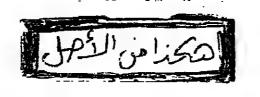




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The truth about Elia Kazan

Arts, page 36



payouts will be in the form of shares that can only be sold at

a later date to prevent employ-

ees from leaving. But employ

ees may borrow money and pledge the shares as collateral.

last year when Goldman's pro-

spective market value dropped from about \$30 billion to

about \$16 billion as shares

slumped on Wall Street. Goldman has 2,500 staff in

Europe, most of whom work

in the London head offices.

Some 37 partners are based in

London, including Gavyn

Davies, chief economist, who

could be in line for shares

The partners first voted on

the flotation plan last June. It was approved, but not without

dissent. Some partners feared

that Goldman's unique culture

of co-operation would be lost

once the executives were no

At the time, Mr Corzine and

Mr Paulson said: "This deci-

sion was reached after a leng-

thy, open and intense dialogue.

ionger the owners.

worth about \$50 million.

The flotation was delayed

The real Luther King Books, page 40

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

THURSDAY MARCH 4 1999

Goldman Sachs poised to revive flotation plan

By Oliver August and Caroline Merrell

GOLDMAN SACHS, the last investment bank partnership on Wall Street, is to resurrect and retired partners. All of the its flotation plan in a move that will make hundreds of employees multimillionaires.

The 220 partners are to vote on the deal by teleconference on Monday. The flotation plan is likely to value the bank at more than \$20 billion (£12 billion). An equity slice of 10 to 15 per cent will be brought to market, and parmers may start cashing in their stakes in three to five years. Partners stand to make an average of about \$100 million each from the sale.

One reason to restrict the initial offering to a maximum of 15 per cent is to deter rivals from attempting to take over the bank. Analysis claim that Goldman shares could start trading as early as May.

Yesierday Jon Corzine and Henry Paulson, Goldman Sachs's co-chairmen, said: "We have recommended that the firm become a public company to secure permanent capi-

Commentary.

tal to grow; to share ownership broadly among our employees: and to permit us to use publicly traded securities to finance strategic acquisitions that we may elect to make in the future."

The bank vesterday carefully prepared its employees for the momentous change in its corporate culture that will result from the flotation plan. A series of video recordings of question-and-answer sessions with senior partners were post-

Under the original flotation many non-partners would have missed out on the distribution. The plan was withdrawn last autumn when the stock market plunged. But under the new scheme that is expected to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission shortly, all 11,000 Goldman bankers will be entitled to stock. The bank has not yet released any details of how large employee stakes will be. However, according to one

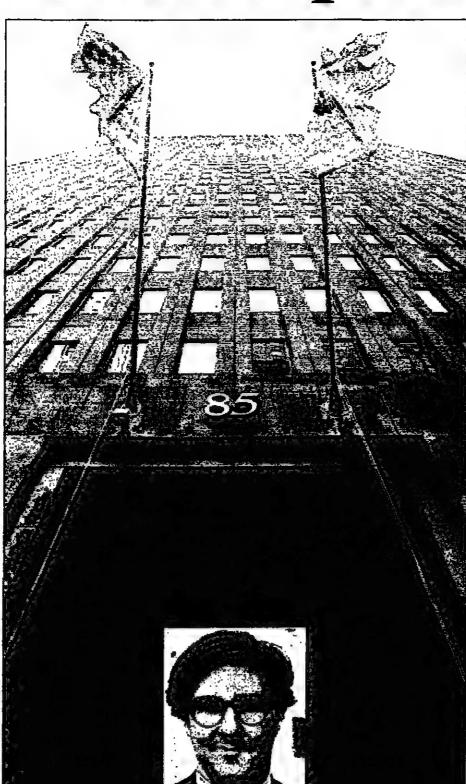
Our culture of collaboration and teamwork, which has been inextricably linked to the firm's success, will continue to flourish in the new structure, rein-forced by the manner in which we implement our plan." Top executives hinted that a key reason for going public was to be able to make large acquisitions by swapping shares. Analysts claim that lacking the ability to

> After flotation, Goldman Sachs is likely to turn itself into a fully integrated financial services business. US consumers could soon be able to have a Goldman building society account. The investment bank recently applied for permission to run a savines and loan company at the US Office of Thrift Supervision.

buy banks in stock swap trans-

actions has harmed Goldman.

John Thain and John Thornton, partners who sit on the top management committee and initially spoke out against a flotation, now back the deal. The flotation documents are being drafted by an in-house team at the investment bank.



Goldman's New York head office, and, inset, John Thornton, who no longer opposes flotation

Du Pont's Monsanto link would dwarf rivals

By PAUL DURMAN

A COMBINATION of the agrochemical interests of Du-Pont with Monsanto, the US group at the centre of the genetically modified food con-troversy, would face a stiff challenge from competition authorities, industry rivals gave warning yesterday. The acquisition of Monsan-

to, valued last night at about 28 billion (£17.3 billion), by DuPont would create a company that controlled about 20 per cent of the world market in products such as herbicides and pesticides.

It would dwarf leading INFLUENCE OF competitors THE BIG TWO headed by Novartis, of Switzerland, and Britain's Zeneca, and would overtake Aventis, the comemerge from the cals besidens and to embar on as \$8 billion space on space lative acquisitions that have proposed merger of Hoechst, of Germany, and Rhone-Poulenc of France.

Neither Du-Pont. world's largest chemicals group, nor Monwould comment on a New York Times report that the two companies

had opened preliminary 2020. According to Zeneca. merger discussions. Shares in both companies rose in US trading yesterday.

The report suggested that Bob Shapiro, Monsanto's chairman and chief executive, is seeking a deal that would allow his smaller company to retain its distinctive culture - much more informal and, it claims, entrepreneurial than many big companies. Mr Shapiro sets the tone by dressing casually and encouraging subordinates to challenge him.

Despite the controversy in Britain over GM food, a much bigger problem for Monsanto is the collapse of last year's proposed merger with American Home Prod-ucts, the large US pharmaceu-

ticals group.
This has left Monsanto's finances looking stretched, it having spent more than \$8 billion on expensively priced acquisitions, some of which are not expected to produce substantial profits for years. It suffered another setback recently when two potentially

big-selling drugs devel-oped by its GD Searle arm proved ineffective in late stage

DuPont, best known in the UK for making Lycra and Te-flon, is, like Monsanto, investing heavily in biotechnology in the belief that science is set to transform the growing of crops and create

estimated that blotech markets could be worth as much as \$500 billion a year by the entire agrochemical industry is currently worth no more than \$33 billion. Zeneca

believes the new market in GM crops, currently negligible, could grow to be worth \$75 billion by 2020. Shares in Monsanto rose about 5 per cent to \$46.75, still well below the \$63.94 they reached last August. A clash of corporate cul-

tures is believed to have been

an important ingredient in the collapse of Monsanto's

deal with AHP.

Business Today



Scenting danger Why perfume is an industry In decline

115.47 ket. DuPont has

Oftel rings numbers changes

analyst, the new plan is likely

By CHRIS AYRES

THE massive changes to proposed by Oftel, the telephone industry regulator, are set to go ahead in April 2000, in spite of objections from business and MPs.

Four years after the introduction of 01 numbers, new numbers will be allocated to London, Northern Ireland. Cardiff, Coventry, Southampton and Portsmouth. Changes to mobile, pager, local, national, and premiumrate numbers will take place over the next two years.

Oftel admitted that another 14 British cities would probably have to change numbers by 2005, and a furblames the huge explosion in demand for telephone servic-es. David Edmonds, Direc-tor-General of Oftel, said: "It is clear that the scheduled changes to the numbering system must go ahead." Under the new system.

new area codes of 02 and 03 will be introduced next year. Codes ranging from 04 to 06 will be reserved for future use, and 07 will be reserved for mobile phones and pag-ers. As a result, nearly all phone numbers will become longer. The 08 code will be kept for freephone numbers, while 09 will be used for pre-

mium-rate numbers. The Trade and Industry Committee has criticised Of tel for failing to consult customers adequately on the changes; that the arguments for the number changes were not convincing and that some of the proposals were wrong.

Bank puts rate cuts on hold

BY SAGED SHAH

THE Bank of England paused for breath yesterday, leaving its key interest rate unchanged at 5.5 per cent, bringing to an end a five-month run of monetary easing, on the back of a series of data that points to the economy stabilising. Most economists said, howev-

er, that they expect the Bank to resume cuts, and would expect interest rates to be a further half or full percentage point lower by the end of this year.

Business leaders felt the caution shown by the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee, chaired by Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, was not justified. The British Chambers of Commerce said the decision was "a bitter pill for UK manufacturers to swallow".

The lack of a move, which had been broadly expected by financial markets, sent the pound to a record closing high against the curo, at 67.48p. Two surveys published yester-day underlined the fragile state

joyed improved trading condi-

tions in February according to

the Confederation of British In-

dustry. The positive reading of

2 per cent shown in the survey

was still weak, though better

than the negative balance of 9

per cent in the previous month.
A service sector survey from

the Chartered Institute of Pur-

chasing & Supply showed that activity fell for the fourth consec-

Commentary, page 29

utive month in February.

working test case

EMPLOYERS can be sued if they force staff against their will to work more than 48 hours a week, the High Court ruled yesterday in the first legal test case on the Working Time Directive.

The ruling, on an action brought by five pit deputies against RJB Mining, endorsed the European directive and ordered RJB to comply and to pay costs. Mr Justice Gage said the directive, which came into force last October, was "a mandatory require-ment which must apply to all contracts of employment".

John Monks, the TUC's General Secretary, said: This judgment is excellent news. The judge has given the red card to Britain's bully-

ing bosses." than 48 hours if they sign an opt-out agreement. Nacods, the pit deputies' union, ad-vised its members not to sign as some deputies were being forced to work 60 hours a week. RJB said it had only asked staff to work their nor-

Miners win 'Triple A' blow for M&S

By Sarah Cunningham, retail correspondent

fered further blows yesterday. As it lost a coveted 'triple A' credit rating, one of its leading clothing suppliers admitted that trade is still very slow,

while another said it is being forced to lay off 200 workers. William Baird, M&S's fourthlargest clothing supplier, yesterday reported lower profits, adding: "If there is to be a recovery in 1999 it will not be before the second half of the year."

Underlying pre-tax profit at the company during 1998 was down 9 per cent to £30.5 million. Operating profits were worst at the division that supplies M&S, almost halving to £6.9 million, on the back of a 5 per cent downturn in sales to

David Suddens, chief executive, said that orders made so far by M&S for the rest of this year are considerably below last year's level. He also said Baird, which closed five UK factories supplying M&S last year, ex-pects to make further job cuts this year and next in order to

MARKS & SPENCER suf- move manufacturing to countries with cheaper labour. Much of its manufacturing for M&S is being transferred to Sri Lanka. Shares in M&S closed down 14%p at 380%p, while Baird fell

4p to 105p.

M&S's dramatic fall in sales, which led to a profits warning last month and a move away from its traditional insistence on "Made in Britain", were felt by Coats Viyella, the chain's second-largest clothing supplier. It is closing a factory in Alloa, near Stirting, which makes women's outerwear for M&S, with the

loss of 200 jobs.

Moody's Investors Services,
meanwhile, said yesterday that it had lowered the rating on M&S's senior debt to AAI from AAA because it thought that the erosion of the business's competitive position in the UK retail market will continue to weaken the company's financial flexibility and diminish the quality of its fundamental business position. Its top short-term rating is not affected.

GARNET POINT



From the edge of the New World a new, smooth, dry full-bodied red.

Muslim fund steers clear of usury

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

DEVOUT Muslims who want to make money should find the going a bit easier from next week when the Britain's first Islamic investment fund is

The fund, called Al-Safa Investment, will only invest in companies approved by Islamic law, or Sharia, and will eschew any involvement in lending or charging interest, which strict Muslims regard as usury.

Named after a mountain on the road to Mecca. Al-Safa is the brainchild of STZ, a Muslim partnership based in West London, STZ has convinced three Islamic scholars from the UK, Canada and Egypt to team up with Greig Mid-dleton, a City stockbroker, and City Financial, a fund manager, to offer Britain's two million Muslims a "unique" investment opportunity. Ian Thomson, a partner at STZ and an independent financial adviser who

converted to Islam 13 years ago, said:

"We've launched this for fairly selfish reasons really. We had nowhere else to put our money. Until now many Mus-lims have had to compromise and put their money on deposit but not take any interest. The banks were making money hand over fist."

Although the fund plans to invest in-ternationally, it will initially focus on the UK's top 350 quoted companies. However, only 200 of these are likely to be eligible as the fund is banned from in tobacco, alcohol, pornography or who sell non-halal food.

Brian Tora, head of Greig Middle-ton Asset Management, the fund's investment adviser, expressed enthusiasm for the project but is expecting to heed Islamic scholars. One scholar, Mohamed El-Sharkawy, the imam, or leader, of the Islamic Culture Centre in London, is fond of quoting from the Koran: "Refrain from all usury, if you are believers. If you do not, then expect buying shares in companies involved a war from Allah and His messenger."

Committee examines **FSA Bill**

By CAROLINE MERRELL.

LORD BURNS, a former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, will head a cross-party committee that aims to facilitate the path of the Financial Services and Markets Bill through Parliament.

The Bill, which increases the powers of the Financial Services Authority, has met opposition from some in the financial services industry, as they believe the legislation will allow the FSA to act as judge, jury and executioner.

The role of the committee is to ensure that any problems in the Bill are ironed out before it reaches Parliament. Ministers hope it will report on the Bill by April. and that Parliament will consider the Bill as soon as possible after that.

Before he joined the Treasury, Lord Burns was Professor of Economics at the London Business School and ran its Centre for Economic Forecasting, Others on the committee include Lord Poole, Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, Lord Eatwell and David Heathcoat-Amory, MP.

EXCHANGE RATES

	*	
	Rank.	EIO F
	Buys	Sella
Australia S	2.68	2.50
Austria Sch	21.40	19.74
Belgum Fr	63.01	58.05
Canada \$	2.585	2.397
	0.0000	0.0307
Cyprus Cyp £	0.9022	
Denmark kr	11.61	10.72
Egypt	5.73	5.12
Firstand Mid	9.37	(3,672
France Fr	10.20	2.40
Germany Dm	3.063	3.833
Greece Dr	503	464
Hone Kone S	13,36	12.16
Iceland	129	109
Indonesia	17899	12899
kreland Pt	1,2223	1.1333
Israel Shk	6.89	6.23
Italy Lira	3046	2809
Jepan Yen	211.29	193.76
Maita	0.672	0.613
Netherkis Gld	3.458	3.163
New Zealand S	3.19	2.95
Norway M.	13.41	12.47
Portugal Esc	309.83	287.80
S Africa Rd	10.72	9.76
Soan Pta	258.22	239.43
Supplier V		13.02
Sweden Kr	14.12	13.02
Switzerland Fr	2.510	2492
Turkey Line	592903	5534.4
USA \$	1.723	1_580
Rates for small deny	omination t	xanknotes

only as supplied by Barclays Bank, Different roles apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as

Serco in talks with MoD over possible £9bn contract

By Fraser Nelson

SERCO is in talks to take over the Royal Air Force's entire air-to-air refuelling fleet in a deal that the Ministry of Defence has valued at £9 billion.

Richard White, chief execurive of the prisons-to-trains outsourcing company, has met MoD officials and offered to replace the ageing fleet of Tris-tars and VCl0s at RAF Brize

The 20-year deal would be the largest PFI contract awarded by the Government. It would involve buying about £2.5 billion of new aircraft.

SCHRODERS, the invest-

ment bank, has admitted that

the poor performance of its

own fund managers led to it

losing about £3 billion of insti-

David Salisbury, chairman

of the bank's Schroder Invest-

ment Management arm, said

yesterday that the money had

been switched from Schroders'

active managers to investment

houses that offered passive

fund management in the form

of index tracking. Despite the

switch, funds under manage-

ment grew by 11 per cent to stand at £119 billion at the year

end, with net new money accounting for £5 billion of the

Mr Salisbury said: "The ac-

tive managers found it diffi-

cult to keep pace with the indi-

ces. We have had our fair

share of bad publicity. We

have seen these periods of

He said that Schroders had

tried to address some of its

performance problems, but

claimed that there had been no

Schroders announced a 5

per cent fall in 1998 pre-tax

profits to E232 million, from

£245 million. Earnings were

dented by a bad debt provision

change in basic philosophy.

underperformance before."

increase.

tutional business last year.

lion on direct groundcrew and operational costs.

Mr White has offered to order and maintain the new aircraft, possibly employing groundcrew and running the airport. In return, Serco would be free to use them to refuel civil aircraft when not being used

Mr White said yesterday: 'The aircraft would be flown by RAF pilots and there would he an arrangement where we would provide more aircraft in

by the RAF.

By CAROLINE MERRELL, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

"It's like leasing a car - we would look after the financing.

of £43 million in Asia on top of

a £24 million provision for the

region made the previous

The bank said that it did not

expect to have to extend these

provisions any further this year. Peter Sedgwick, deputy chairman, said that despite

the problems in Asia, it expect-

ed to maintain a strong pres-

Profits before provisions were up by £6 million to £275

million. Schroders is raising

the total dividend by 8 per cent

The bank, nearly 50 per cent

owned by members of the

Schroder family, said it was

well placed to benefit from cor-

porate restructuring in Eu-

rope and asset management

Mr Sedgwick said that the

bank was sure that it could re-

main independent, despite the

consolidation among other in-

were slightly better than ex-

pected. "Now that 1998 is be-

hind us, we won't probably see

any further provisions for

Asia," said Tom Rayner, bank-

Tempus, page 30

ing analyst at SG Securities.

Analysts said the results

opportunities worldwide.

to 16.5p a share.

vestment banks.

and spending another £6.5 bil- the maintenance, the support

costs — everything."
The MoD said yesterday that its current fleet could, in theory, last until 2015. But its 24 VCiOs are already 30 years old, and its nine Tristars have been in service for 15 years. .

It said: They do need replacing, and we've asked the industry to come up with ideas. We are open to all options." The MoD is conducting the

talks under its "Future Strategic Tanker Aircraft Programme", which is by far the largest Private Finance Initiative (PFI) project to date. It is due to start in October 2002.

Fund swaps hit Schroders

which specialises in PFI work. has offered to take part in the partial privatisation of Lon-

don Underground through its El billion joint venture with Nomura. It already runs the driverless Docklands Light Rail-

way, which has connected the City of London to the Canary Wharf development since 1988. He said: "With Docklands, we have looked after the signalling, the trains and the maintenance as one package. Although it's a much smaller scale than London Underground, it has been a sucgood stead."

He added that he would be keen to participate in the privatisation of Air Traffic Control - but is less confident that the contract will ever come up on the market.

Serco now runs a stream of outsourcing deals under de-fence, health, prisons, scientific research and transport.

Its underlying pre-tax profit was an expected £26.4 million (£22 milion) for 1998, leaving headline earnings of 27.4p (23.9p) per share. The total dividend rises to 7.4p (6.4p) with a final 5.lp.

Tax blow to German

By Sigrid Aufterbeck

At an emergency meeting yesterday, Herr Schröder told the insurance industry that he would consider an amendment if the additional tax burden on the companies exceeded the Government's own estimate of DM8.75 billion (£3 billion). Insurers say the changes will cost them DM13.7 billion

package envisages net tax cuts of DM20.5 billion (£7.19 billion), mainly targeted at cut-ting the burden on average in-come earners. But insurance companies have said that they would be the main victims of the reform, as a result of the abolition of tax breaks. Allianz, Germany's largest insurer, threatened to move operations abroad over the tax changes. Several insurers also threatened to boycott German government bond auctions in

insurers

GERMAN insurers failed to convince Chancellor Gerhard Schröder to scrap tax reforms which they said would cost them billions of marks, but did win a pledge for a review

of the situation in a year.

Herr Schröder's four-year

Citigroup's second **Canary Wharf site**

CANARY WHARF, the 81-acre office development that is heading for-a £26 billion flotation, has secured a major letting to Citigroup, which plans to take a 42-storey office building to be built at the London Docklands site. The new 1.2 million sq ft tower will adjoin a 17-storey building currently under construction for Citibank. The larger building will house the investment banking and corporate banking arms of Salomon Smith Barney and Citibank, bringing together 6,000 Citigroup personnel at the Canary Wharf complex.

Citigroup has agreed a long lease on the new tower, designed by Cesar Pelli & Associates, at a rent thought to be about £35 per square foot. Paul Reichmann, Canary Wharf's chairman, said that the deal was a milestone for it. "The 42storey Citigroup headquarters tower will join the existing 50storey landmark One Canada Square and the 42-storey HSBC tower currently under construction," he said. Canary. Wharf's pathfinder prospectus is due at the end of next week." A quarter of the enlarged company will be sold in a floration.

McKinsey Isa contract

MCKINSEY, the management consultant, has been commissioned by the Treasury to track the development of the individual savings account (Isa). The contract shows that the firm's links with the Conservatives do not exclude it from collaborations with new Labour: William Hague is a former McKinsey employee. Using data supplied by banks, building societies, insurance companies and others providing Isas, McKinsey will observe how much is being invested in the scheme.

Spring Ram jobs go

CUTBACKS in orders from DIY retailers have forced Spring Ram, the kitchens and bathrooms specialist, to shed 250 jobs and spend £1.5 million on scaling back production. It blamed the cuts for a 68 per cent fall in operating profit, to £1.1 mil-lion, in the year to January 23. It said £2 million, of annual overheads were eliminated in the second half, which should save £6 million a year. Exceptional items left pre-tax profits at £3.3 million (£500,000). The total dividend stays at 0.1p.

Hanson sells stake

HANSON, the building materials group, has raised A\$224.3 million (£87 million) by selling its 23.8 per cent stake in Westralian Sands, the Australian mineral sands company. Hanson originally held 40 per cent of RGC, another Australian mineral sands miner, which last year merged with WestSands, leaving Hanson with a stake in the new group. Hanson said that it planned to use the proceeds to fund the purchase of more building products companies in America.

BioMedica seeks £3.6m

OXFORD BIOMEDICA, which claims to be the UK's leading specialist in gene therapy, is raising £3.6 million as a possible prelude to a move to the main market from the AIM. It plans a one-for-five rights issue of new shares priced at 15p - 50 per cent more than last year's fundraising. The money should enable the company to continue funding its cancer trials until the end of next year. Alan Kingsman, chief executive, said BioMedica is also considering Easdaq as an alternative to London.



Peter Sedgwick before a portrait of J. Henry Schroder

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Thistle ur record pr

Dawson c backlash

The Goldman Sachs flotation is on again. This time, however it may look to jealous outsiders, the decision to float is not about turning the partners into multi-millionaires. Oh no, this time Goldman is floating as part of a carefully thought out strategic plan for the develop-ment of the group. That is what the double act of John Thornton and John Thain has been telling the troops as they have whistle stopped through Asia, the US and Europe. The message may even, for a few moments, have stopped the troops worrying over just how many shares they were going to cart. But not for long

going to get. But not for long.

After the fiasco of last autumn's pulled flotation, the bank cannot afford to fail again. So now the message is that price is almost irrelevant: the important thing is to get the IPO over quick-ly and efficiently then get on with running the business. If Goldman tried telling its corporate clients that price was not impor-tant, they might be inclined to take their business elsewhere. But in this case it is largely true. With no more than 15 per cent of the company being sold and the inside shareholders forced to hold the stock for between three and five years, the partners can afford to price the issue at a level which will ensure it gets away swiftly. Their rewards will come

Get it right — never mind the price

were divided over the original float plans: a fly on the board-room wall would have witnessed scenes of naked greed which even some of the masters of the universe claimed to have found

Perhaps the experience really did cause a few investment bank-ers to wonder whether there was more to running a world beating bank than money. Anyhow, the result has been a change at the top of the organisation. Jon Corzine vacated the chief executive's chair and Hank Paulson moved into it. Together with Messrs Thornton and Thain, an established team, the trio now appear to be running the show. And they have been telling Goldman's near 2000 staff of their vision for the future of a business which is strong on communication and encourages the careers of women

and ethnic minorities.
But enough of that. Goldman
is one of the world's three global
investment banks, along with
Merrill Lynch and Morgan
Stanley, It intends to hang onto that position and will go on grabbing business worldwide. Forty per cent of its profits now come Goldman has been through a from Europe and Asia where, bruising period. The partners just five years ago, it was still los-



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

ing money. Its culture will not be changed by the flotation: the aim remains to win. Apple pie features a long way down the menu. The flotation provides a different way of rewarding staff: there will be shares for all, largely allotted on merit, which promises plenty of scope for excitement. And there will be paper with which to make acquisitions. That is not on the agenda now, of course, but that is what they all say.

A fresh plea for stunted giants

win the City will be be-moaning the loss to the stock market of Wainhomes. The company was floated in 1994 at 170p a share and now it is going private at 140p. This short and inglorious life as a public company bears no relation to Wainhomes's real business, which saw profits double in five years. No wonder the directors have decided that they need the City as much as Goldman Sachs

partners need starter homes. The company's exit from the stock market gives perfectly timed emphasis to the conclusions of a newly republished report forecasting the potential demise of the smaller quoted companies sector. Not all these tiddinates the smaller of the smaller content of the smaller content of the sector. lers will grow into Tomorrow's Giants, the romantic title of the report, but, the way the stock market is polarising at the mo-ment the danger is that many po-tentially significant companies will be deprived of the route to capital and, thereby, expansion.

The Treasury is aware of the problem. Paul Myners spelt it out in his recent report and Geoffrey Robinson, when he was Paymaster General, established the inevitable committee to take a look. Tomorrow's Giants is a sequel to the work of that committee, penned by its deputy chair-man, Brian Basham, and Craig Pickering who, for the past five years was head of the Industry division at the Treasury.

Mr Basham, best known as a

corporate spin-doctor, tried his hand at building what might have been a giant of the future by launching a nursing home business. Rather than risk rejection by the stock market, he decided to sell to BUPA instead. But no matter, he would like others to

have the chance to grow.

The report has a plethora of suggestions, ranging from the fashionable one of educating children in the joys of investment to pushing more company informa-tion on to the Web. That alone would have been unlikely to have altered the fortunes of a future Wainhomes.

What the report comes down to is a call for more tax incentives to encourage the private inves-tor. It lands on Gordon Brown's desk as he puts the finishing touches to the Budget and is likely to be pushed on to an ever-increasing pile of worthy and un-

read pleas. Yesterday, the pile was also added to by another paeon of praise for employee share ownership plans from the ever-active Denis MacShane, MP. The argument in both cases is that we should be encouraging more private investors. The Gov-ernment should not ignore them.

ABI pulls off a palace coup

uring Mary Francis to be the next director-general of the Association of British Insurers is quite a coup for chairman Sandy Leitch. Yesterday this column said that leading trade associations should take an imaginative approach to filling the top jobs that have fallen vacant simultaneously. Poaching from the Queen is certainly more adventurous than hiring someone from another industry organisa-tion, as the ABI had done in the past, or another McKinseyite, the CBI's usual recruiting trick. A former Treasury civil servant, Ms Francis has been at Buckingham Palace for the past three

years. She may find that modern-

ising the monarchy is a breeze compared with the problems of

budsman laying into mortgage protection policies. Under such attacks, the industry tends to stifle its fears over how the plans for new savings products and complicated pension schemes are supposed to work. Ms Francis, with her knowledge of royal protocol. may prove to have been an inspired choice in securing enlightenment. A curtsey might secure that most sought-after privilege for those who want to learn what

putting a positive case for the fi-nancial services industry. While

the ABI would like to move on

from pensions mis-selling, even the past week has seen the chair-

man of the Financial Services Au-

thority warning that Isas will be mis-sold and the insurance om-

Dr Brown's remedy

the Treasury is really thinking: an audience with Ed Balls.

THE terminology surrounding the decisions of the Monetary Policy Committee has abandoned ornithology in favour of pharmacology. Hawks and doves have flown. Now Eddie George dishes out aspirins and the British Chambers of Commerce decries yesterday's decision to leave interest rates unchanged as "a bitter pill". Yet, with the Budget just days away, the MPC needed to pause from its rate cutting. After all, Gordon Brown may be planning to hand out a few anti-depressants to industry.

GKN profits up by 14% despite gloom on cars

BY ADAM JONES

GKN shares rose more than 7 per cent yesterday after an unexpectedly strong performance at its pallet rental business, Chep. The surge in the stock price came despite a downbeat forecast for car pro-

duction in Europe. GKN reported 1998 profits of £462 million before goodwill amortisation and exceptionals, a 14 per cent rise on 1997. Analysis had expected between £436 million and £460 million.

GKN said Chep, a joint venture that provides and manages crates for supermarket chains and others, enjoyed double-digit growth in all its operations. One big rowth market is for returnable produce pallets that can be moved straight out into a supermarket display.

Group-wide sales of the company which manufactures propellor shafts and other components for cars, sells powder

By DOMINIC WALSH

THISTLE HOTELS, London's biggest hotel group, emerged from a year of turmoil to report

record profits before tax and ex-

ceptionals of £86.6 million — a 9.2 per cent increase over 1997.

On a like-for-like basis reve-nue per available room rose

by 5.6 per cent to £49.52, driv-

en by a 6.1 per cent rise in aver-

age room rates. Bedroom occupancy saw a slight dip to 71.9 per cent from 72.3 per cent.

Including exceptional items, pre-tax profits almost halved

to £46.8 million, with adjusted carnings per share reaching 11.9p (12.1p). This included a

£27.5 million loss on the dispos-

al of 34 of its regional hotels, re-

alising £74.5 million, and £19

million from new accounting

rules on property valuations.

metals for a variety of uses, as well as making Westland heli-copters, came in at £3.71 billion, up from £3.38 billion. Earnings per share were up from 39.2p to 80.2p, reflecting a £248 million one-off gain following a successful appeal against a court decision in the

US last year. GKN said it could afford to spend up to £1 billion on aquisitions but C.K. Chow, chief executive, played down the need to buy competitors in the automotive or support services

It is still in talks to form an alliance between Westland and Agusta, the Italian helicopcompany. GKN has already merged its armoured vehicle business with Alvis. It is unlikely that Vickers will inject its struggling tank-making arm into this pairing.

Mr Chow said GKN expects the US car market to be flat this year, although the group's

Thistle unveils

record profits

market share should rise Recent problems in Brazil had affected automotive profits but Mr Chow emphasised that emerging markets account for just over 3 per cent of sales.

GKN expects European car production to fall by about 3 per cent in 1999. The European car industry is responsible for about £!.4 billion of GKN sales. Danny Bevan, an analyst at Crédit Lyonnais, was unfazed: They look as if they are going to manage their way through the European downturn reasonably effectively."

Demand for GKN's agricultural profits in Europe is also expected to fall this year. following an earlier slump in the US.

. A dividend of 10.55p per share has been declared, making 16.3p (14.75p) for the year. The shares closed at 910p, close to their all-time high of 925p.

Tempus, page 30

Heavy going for Ladbroke's bookies

trading conditions in its UK betting shop chain as it puts the final touches to its £1.5 billion takeover of Stakis, the rival hotel and gaming group (Dominic Walsh writes).

The company yesterday admitted that although trading in its two divisions had been "satisfactory" in the

IADBROKE has experienced difficult first two months of the year, trading trading conditions in its UK betting margins in its Ladbrokes bookies' shops had been "lower than planned". In common with rivals such as Wil-

liam Hill, Ladbrokes has suffered from effects of poor weather on race meetings and some predictable football results, enabling pursient to rake in higher winnings than normal. A spokesman said: "Margins do fluctuate. That's the nature of the business." Ladbroke was unveiling a 22 per cent rise in 1998 profits, before tax and exceptionals, to £276.9 million. Earnings per share rose from 14.82p to 17.90p. A 4.64p final dividend makes 7.58p, up 10 per cent. The Hilton Interby 2 per cent, to £181 million, with betting and gaming up 55 per cent. to £172.4 million — or 23 per cent excluding the effect of the recently sold Coral. There was a £9.8 million writedown of launch costs of Vernons Easy Play, a football-based National Lottery game with 350,000 players a week, against forecasts of up to three million.





Burke: "revenue growth"

1031/p last December. Yesterday, they shed 31/2p to 1361/2p.
Ian Burke, chief executive, said that trading in the first two months of the year had delivered "modest like-for-like revenue growth".

A final dividend of 3.0p

There were also one-off costs of £1.4 million in advisers' fees relating to the abortive sale of makes a total of 4.5p. up 7.1 per the company to Nomura last cent. Investors will also share a summer. Thistle's shares, which had touched 250p in £92.4 million special dividend the second tranche of the £185 million promised in September. June, went into a tailspin after the deal's collapse, sinking to

Cookson to spend £400m

BY PAUL DURMAN

COOKSON, the industrial materials group, has £400 million to spend on acquisitions to bolster its new focus on electronics, ceramics and engineering. Steve Howard, chief executive, said Cookson was considering "a couple of deals worth £200 million or more" as well as the more familiar bolt-on

Mr Howard said the company was making progress with its recently announced plans to close 20 manufacturing plants and rationalise another 10. which will cause 700 job losses. The first £50 million of costs from this programme was the main reason operating profits fell last year from £188.3 mil-lion to £122.9 million. Annual savings of £14 million are expected from next year.

Underlying pre-tax profits were 15 per cent lower at £151 million. A final dividend of 5.1p increases the total for the year by 2 per cent to 9.4p a share. Cookson's shares slipped 5/2p to 149p.



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Dawson chief fears US backlash on cashmere

By Sarah Cunningham, retail correspondent

SCOTTISH cashmere companies could be seriously damaged by the continuing uncertainty over whether the United States is to impose sanctions in its "banana war" with the European Union, a leading manufacturer said yesterday. Peter Forrest, chief executive of Dawson International, the company behind the Pringle and Ballantyne brands.

said: The bad thing is that

the indecision carries on and

ous business coming Scot-

could delay some quite seri-

land's way." Small, independent companies will probably be worst hit, he said.

America says the EU's banana regime actually favours EU-based marketing companies and deprives its own big firms, such as Chiquita and Dole Foods, of revenues. It has drawn up a list of EU goods, including Scottish cashmere sweaters, that could be affected by 100 per cent tariffs. Dawson said it will be large-

ly protected from sanctions be-

cause it has a China-based busi-

ness, which mainly supplies the US with cashmere and which would not be affected. Dawson said yesterday that it intends to focus entirely on cashmere and to sell its other

businesses after a year in which

it fell £30.6 million into the red. Dawson made a pre-tax profit in the previous year of £10.2 million. It is not paying any dividend for the year to January 2 (2.75p in the previous year). There were exceptional charges of £19.6 million





Rentokil slips further despite rogue trade

SIR CLIVE THOMPSON, chief executive of Rentokil Initial, must have been all smiles yesterday afternoon.

He had spent the previous 24 hours taking stick about the slowdown in earnings that led him to miss his own 20 per cent earnings growth per annum pledge and which saw shares in his company take a 10 per cent dive.

So it will have came as something of a surprise when the Rentokil price raced up by well over 100p at one stage to touch 525p on the London Stock Exchange's computerised trading system Sets.

Word is it was Schroders that did the damage - though not for any reasons of belated support for Sir Clive. One of its traders came over all fingers and thumbs and mistakenly entered the number of shares he wanted to buy, 525,000, into the space where the bid price should have gone.

Shocked rival traders fell over themselves in an effort to accommodate his order. At least one line of 15,000 shares went through at 525p along with 43,000 at 465p before the

mistake was discovered. The rogue trades were later corrected. Just as well for Credit Lyonnais, the broker, which is believed to be talking Rentokil down to the 300p level. Rentokil shares closed the

day 414p cheaper at 39614p. The absence of another cut in bank rates saw share prices give up an early lead. An uncertain start to trading on Wall Street and further weakness among US Treasury bonds only added to the dull backdrop. Dealers say there is little reason for investors to test the waters ahead of next week's Budget.

In the event, the FTSE 100 index finished 13.0 down at 6,048.3 having seen an earlier lead of 55 points wiped out. Once again it was outperformed by the FTSE 250 index. up 9.6 at 5.286.9 with total turnover topping a billion shares.

Some bullish comments from Credit Lyonnais gave BOC Group a welcome fillip with the price finishing 24/pp shares a "buy" and says the low point in the company's fortunes has now been reached.

broker, helped rein in COLT Telecom, 16%p, lower at £11.20, after telling clients to



Tim Scope, finance director, left, and David Suddens, chief executive, saw William Baird slip 4p to 105p as profits fell

group's demands for cash have man, selling 129,542 shares at left the broker unimpressed. 60lp. His holding is now 48.26 left the broker unimpressed. Compass Group advanced 20sip to 767p as Salmon Smith

Barney raised its recommendation for the shares from "outperform" to "trading buy". It continues to set a target price for the shares of 830p.

Amvescap was down 104p at 604% p. This was in spite of Charles Bauer, deputy chairmillion, or 7.18 per cent.

Viridian jumped 2415p to 733p in response to news of the proposed joint venture with Energis Group, 120p dearer at £15.80. The companies plan to build a new telecommunications network and launch a service in Northern Ireland.

There was some heavy turn-

OPPOSITE ENDS OF THE HIGH STREET FTSE 350 Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb

MARKS & SPENCER finished 144p lower at 3804p with brokers convinced that trading conditions are

worsening.
HSBC Securities, the broker, continues to tell clients to reduce their holdings. while earlier this week WestLB Panmure, the broker, said the shares were probably only worth 300p. Moody's, the debt rating agency, has compounded the retailer's problems by lowering its senior debt rating from AAA to AAI.

Top Shop and Dorothy Perkins retailer - also made heavy weather of it, with the price sliding 18p to 213p.

The shares have come up from about the 190p level since early February, with one large seller cleared from the market. But Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the ed and is still telling clients to "reduce" their holdings.

By contrast. Great Univ-17p to 839p with Panmure a buyer and Merrill Lynch forecasting a price of 875p.

over in Hanover Internation al with 261,000 shares changing hands as the price firmed 10p to 105½p. Results out later this month should make good reading and may help to si-lence shareholder discontent.

A drop in both profits and sales left William Baird nursing a fall of 4p to 105p. The textiles group blamed the down turn in fortunes of its bigges customer Marks & Spences and gave warning that the first half of current year would reflect the economic slowdown.

Share buying by one director and more than doubled pre tax profits were responsible for the rise of 8½p to 50p in Jacobs Holdings. Michael Kingshott, managing director, has bought 100,000 shares at 47%p taking his holding to 7.5 million, or 7.4 per cent.

Locker Group dipped ¼p to 13¼p, James Southworth, managing director, unloaded 73,400 shares at 14p. It reduces his holding to 21,980, or less than I per cent.

A profits warning left Pilkington Tiles nursing a loss of 21/2 p at 10p. The group says de-ferred orders and problems at one of its plants will bring profits in below expectations.

There were some heavy buyers moving in late on Wates City of London as the price rose 614p to 7214p on the back of plans to return cash to shareholders. They included a buyer of one million shares at 69p. 550,000 at 73p and 350,000 at 72n. The developer has put the "for sale" sign up on some of ☐ GILT-EDGED:

weakness in US Treasury bonds and the MPC's decision to peg interest rates left bond prices nursing falls of more than £1. Yields were down across the spectrum but the worst of the falls were seen in shorter-dated issues, which are traditionally more sensitive to interest rate movements. In the futures pit, the June

series of the long gilt finished 76p lower at £115.47 as 33,000

contracts were traded. Among

conventional issues. Treasury

8 per cent 2021 fell 106p to £144.50, while at the shorter was 4lp down at £106.04. □ NEW YORK: US stocks were flat as big technology and oil issues helped pull Wall Street off morning lows. At midday the Dow Jones indus-

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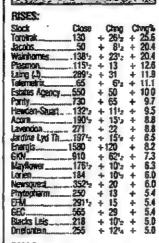
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Engineering progress

GKN has become a safe haven for investors who want exposure to the engineering sector but are worried about plummeting valuations elsewhere. It is easy to understand the attraction. Under the steady leadership of C. K. Chow, the affable chief executive, GKN has shown that diversification can be an asset for an engineer.

The group's bread and butter is making fairly heavy duty car parts for that notoriously cyclical industry. It is tough out there for automotive engineers, but by harnessing new technology based on the use of cheaper powdered metal, GKN has found a platform for organic growth even as it is squeezed by the carmakers.

Where GKN comes into its own, however, is its ability to offset the cyclicality. Westland Helicopters provides a steady order stream. More tellingly, the logistics business is going great guns. The pallet-making Chep business increased sales by 15 per cent in Europe and 31 per cent in the the Americas last year.

The spread means that investors can look beyond the gloomy predictions on car production numbers. It is also an asset for GKN in sales of helicopters. A recent order from South Africa required offsetting investment which will be mainly satisfied by expanding Chep in the republic.

But are these qualities now appreciated" Are the shares fully valued at 910p? Probably. especially compared with automotive engineers. But management strength, the most important element in any company's fortunes, means that this group should continue to progress. Investors have no reason to lose faith in GKN. Hold.

Schroders

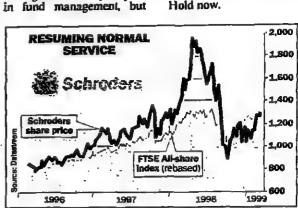
IT IS hard to believe that shares in Schroders were changing hands for nearly £20 each less than 12 months ago. Hindsight is a wonderful thing but even a year ago it was becoming painfully obvious that the Far East was entering prolonged economic difficulties, and Schroders's investment banking activities would be hit.

The investment management side of Schroders was also showing signs that it had achieved much of what it could achieve, near term. As a specialist active manager, shrewd investors would have noticed that it would feel the backlash from the growing

appetite for index tracking.
It was not even as if the stock had palpable takeover attractions, what with the Schroder family speaking for just under 50 per cent of the company. The key lessons to be learnt from Schroders's rethere is a comforting solidity about income derived from handling pension and unit cent stock price history are trust investment assets. for investors rather than the Investors must learn to company. Notwithstanding the Asian shocks, it is more

than proficient at advising commercial clients on corporate strategy and is right to persevere, particularly with the Tigers. It had a poor year

keep their feet on the ground. At £12.90 yesterday, the p/e is about on a par with its FTSE 100 peers, and justifiably so. At £20 the p/e would have



Britannic

YESTERDAY'S sharp fall in Britannic shares may mark a watershed. The stock has enjoyed darling status for much of the past five years as it unwound its orphan asset estate and appeared to be in pole position to make hay as private individuals saved for their own welfare needs.

As an operator among lower income groups Britannic was also viewed as being well placed to serve those whom the Government is most concerned about.

Those attractions remain. But the obligation to reduce the value of its long-term life insurance business — the socalled embedded value - raises troubling questions.

prompted by falling investment returns and compoundsion mis-selling obligations. able to predict movements and manage expectations lower without shock, suggests that the company cannot see for is unwilling to accept) harsh truths.

The embedded value reduction diminishes Britannic's net asset value per share to about 915p, instead of the £10 that many analysts had reckoned on. This was neatly reflected in the 97p share price fall to £10.65 yesterday. At these levels the shares have yield attractions, but Britannic's reputation as a growth stock may be lost.

Wilson Bowden MANY of the leading house-

builders' shares are now trading at or near double figure ple ratios. Wilson Bowden. courtesy of the fact that it published annual results, Using the earnings for 1998 - and disregarding the impact of the pen-sion refund - Wilson shares

now change hands for the

equivalent of 10.4 times earn-

The logic behind buying housebuilding shares is bolstered because of takeover speculation. But Wainhomes is being taken private - with apparent investor blessing r less than 10 times.

There could come a time. perhaps shortly, when the secfor rerating runs out of steam, Wilson, with a vield of less than 3 per cent, may already be at fair value. Demand for housing remains strong and planning constraints stifle supply. But Wilson, with 16 per cent operating profit margins, must rely on turnover growth for profits advances. These prospects

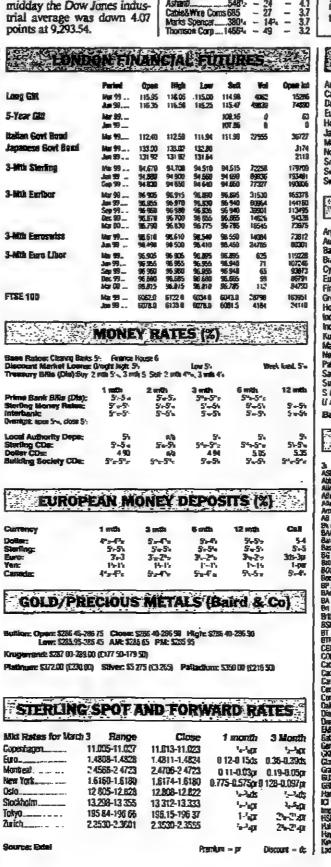
are steady, but not fantastic. Historic p/e ratios of up to however, is no longer worth

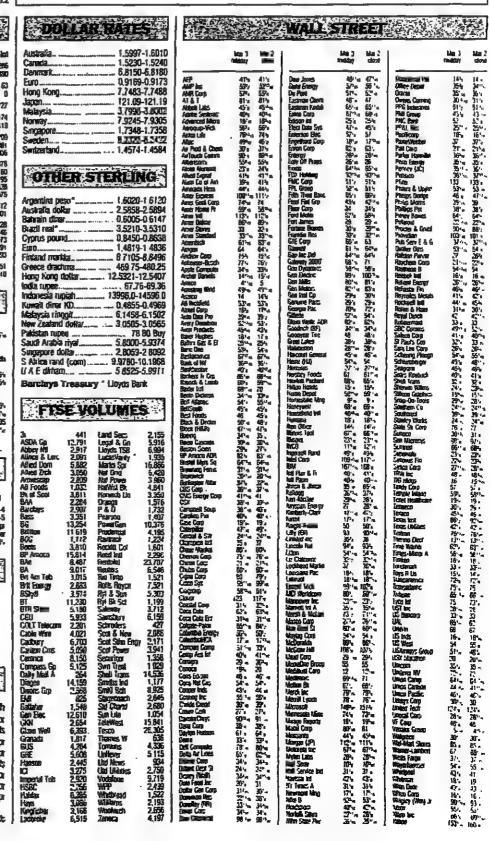
EDITED BY ROBERT COLE



Dec Test

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means-tested benefits are worse. The gradual atomisation of the family into individual working and consuming units has boosted gross income per head. The labour force has grown bigger and more flexible, permitting faster growth without inflation. But there is a

heavy financial price to pay. Someone has to supply the services for money that were previously supplied unmeasured within the family. Cross subsidies within the family fade, so the state ends up paying much of the bill. A society with strong families can manage with low taxes. An individualistic

one naturally goes with high taxes. pauperise those who do not work, chiefly the young, the old, the un-

Costly extractions from the retired

fit, carers and the temporarily unemployed. This is the programme of the new rationalists who dominate modern political ideas.

A start has been made by withdrawing support from students and levying a poll tax for fees. Most students are impoverished and given unnatural incentives to take the highest paid job available

or to emigrate on graduation.
This reform protects the higher education industry from market forces that would otherwise cut costs and reallocate resources to the most cost-effective courses and locations. It also helps the labour market by pushing students into taking low-paid, part-time jobs at unsocial hours. The drawback is that most students cannot immediately pay, so a loan system has been set up to defer payment until it can sensibly be made.

of non-workers is, however, retired folk. They can be attacked in two ways: by cutting their potential income and by withdrawing free services from them.

Gordon Brown struck the decisive opening blow of the campaign in his first Budget, when he extract-ced more than £5 billion a year from pension funds by withdrawing tax relief. In 50 years time, this extra tax should run at more than £15 billion in today's money.

In the early years, employers will make up most of the difference but by 2050, nearly all the extra Treasury revenue will be coming straight out of the pensions retired people have to live on. This is a significant transfer to workers.

By comparison, the funding issues argued over by the Royal Commission on Long-Term Care are modest. The total cost, on their



1.6 to 1.9 per cent of national income over the next 50 years. Various arms of the state provide E7billion a year out of today's £11 billion cost. Two-thirds is spent on the minority of recipients who live in residential or nursing homes.

SEARJEANT

Even so, the commission members could not agree. Ten concluded that healthcare should in future

be free while board and lodging ed to cover risks that are extremely should be chargeable, with a common, costly and open-ended. means test. This would cost taxpayers El.1 billion a year extra now. rising to perhaps £6 billion a year by 2050. This extra spending would save thousands of pensioners who had saved from having to sell their homes and become indigent. The Treasury hates the idea.

Two dissenters argue that free healthcare is an unaffordable gift to the better off and an incentive to demand more care. But they cannot agree among themselves. One proposes a four-year limit on charges for care. The average term in residential care is only two years but a quarter stay for more than four years. A limit on charges might make it feasible to insure commercially against the risk of needing full-time care, nearly one in three for older women.

Only a revival of some variant of whole life insurance, which goes to heirs if not claimed, might fit.

The other dissenter rejected even a four-year cut-off as an unjustifiable aid to the affluent and their heirs. Anyone whose resources are not exhausted by four years at £17.500 a year in a nursing home, is by definition well off. Geoffrey Robinson would have approved. As in education, the argument

over principles and funding obscures the economic issue. If an extra 20 per cent of those needing care in future are served at home rather than in an institution, the cost of long-term care will fall as a percentage of national income over the next 50 years.

Universal free healthcare could then be restored at no net cost to taxpayers, with the equivalent of a

prescription charge to deter frivolous extra demand. Sadly, that is not the point. If the Government wanted older people to look after themselves, it would not have taxed away £15 billion a year of their future income in the Chancel-

lor's raid on pension funds. The object is to transfer resources from the retired. This could at least be done in a kindlier way less damaging to people's incentives to save. One way is to replicate the student loan scheme, though the dissenters reckon this too generous for the elderly. Any surplus of charges over the individual's income could be chalked up as an index-linked charge against their estate. Logically, charges should also be limited to the annuity value of the individual's estate when they come into care. For an 85-year-old woman, this would be a maximum 16 per cent of wealth a year.

All means-tested benefits are as foreign to an incentive-based society as low taxes are to an atomised one. As most of us hope to be old one day, we might just as well accept the implications of both.

Fine fragrance industry scents a new danger in the air

Carl Mortished

analyses the

trends that spell trouble

to a business

in decline

hen did you last notice someone's perfume? Leave aside candlelit moments while you consider the question. Walk around your office. Try to remember your last journey in a crowded lift. Do your nostrils twitch at the distinctive memory of a wave of Chanel or Armani over-

powering your senses? Probably not Cast your mind back ten or 12 years and your response might well have been different. Heavy scent has become socially unacceptable: even the mere presence of perfume or aftershave at arm's length is regarded as a bit "in

The fine fragrance industry is in crisis. Sales are falling or static and discounting is rife. Last year, in Britain, sales of female fragrance plunged by almost 19 per cent and even male fragrances, the big growth market of the past five years, slipped by more than 5 per cent, causing the overall British fragrance market to shrink 14

per cent to £602 million. Statistics from AC Nielsen. the market researcher, reveal that Christmas was a disaster for perfume. Sales of male fragrances fell from £106 million in the final two months of 1997 to £80 million in November and December 1998. Female scent suffered an even bigger shake-out with sales plummet-

ing 46 per cent to £96 million. What is going wrong? The answer is: almost everything and the slowdown in consumer spending is just the tip of the iceberg. Changing tastes, dress codes and working habits are part of the problem. Prestige fragrances are losing ground to cheaper, lighter scents and



ket clothing retailers.

In the US, the world's largest fragrance market, a similar pattern emerges. Sales were flat last year, barely up I per cent. which means a decline in real terms. NPD Beauty Trends. which tracks department store sales, points to the intense com-petition. "Traditional outlets are losing ground to new competitors such as specialty stores, apparel specialty stores

Allan Mottus, editor of the Informationist, a US cosmetic trade publication, reckons that the industry is suffering from changing working habits and a rash of bad product launches. The perfume industry is marketing to a shrinking percent-age of the public. The biggest growth industry is the hightech sector. Those people wear sweaters and khakis to work. People don't wear heavy per-

Gender politics is also hurting the fragrance houses. Mr Mottus said: "Sexual harassment is an issue. People feel increasingly wary about wearing provocative perfume in the But the real villains may be

the fragrance houses themselves. With about 150 new perfume launches a year, they are digging their own graves. Launching a fragrance is expensive. According to Givenchy, a new product needs Fr500 million (ES2 million) in sales, to be a winner. The French perfume industry is being forced to acclimatise to a world of mass retailing in hypermarkets which now account for more than half of the country's perfume sales. Instead of the cosy world of the local parfumerie with its glass cases, perfume is now piled high in gondolas at the end of

body sprays sold by mass mar- fume when they wear casual supermarket aisles. From reo- fumes, such as Gucci, Chloë ommended retail prices, we have moved to discounting, the grey market of parallel imports aggressive merchandisers who demand money upfront

for prominent product display. ne perfume industry executive, Chantal Roos, of Beauté Prestige International, interviewed in Les Echos, the French financial newspaper, has highlighted the dangers: "The rate of launches is increasing, but most perfumes are indistinguishable and the consumer jumps from one to the other, attracted by the idea of novelry but remaining unconvinced. If your products are found everywhere. they lose their precious and ex-clusive quality."

Only yesterday. Asda proved her right, launching 70 per cent discounts on designer per-

and Opium. Hitting back at the perfume houses who want to stop grey market discounting, Asda said: "The only thing that is exclusive about these perfumes is their price."

Meanwhile, the manufacturers scramble to find new smells to titilizte jaded senses. Most of the world's perfume is designed not in laboratories in Paris or Provence but by vast chemical companies, like International Flavour & Fragrance, Givaudan, Firmenich and a subsidiary of ICI, Quest International. These are smell and taste manufacturers, and fine fragrance is a minor but high margin part of the business. Fragrances are used in detergent, cleaning products and air fresheners — Quest recently boasted a contract to add a smell to the Paris Metro. The biggest growth is in personal care - shampoo, soap and skincare products.

They analyse the chemical components of smells and manufacture them. Quest's plant in Kent is floor upon floor of vats containing some 6,000 individual smells. Fashion houses come to them with a brief to design a perfume and the expert perfumiers or "noses" make suggestions. Once agreed, the finished product is mixed from the ingredients and shipped out in drums. It represents just 10 per cent of the cost of an average bottle of perfume.

Research is big: walk into the lobby of Quest's factory in Kent

and you will see a bank of screens and fragrance samples. inviting you to take part in a survey. The trouble is that smells are not universally appreciated — while pine may suggest cleanliness in Europe, the correct smell in Indonesia is jasmine. Quest spends millions of pounds on focus groups, trying to find what mells clean, sexy or exotic in São Paulo, as opposed to Sapporo. No surprise to learn that mango is boring in Djakarta but apple induces that dreamy

faraway feel.

Bad news for perfume sales.

What the fragrance houses and manufacturers want are blockbusters that will sell worldwide and go on selling for years to come. Quest and its rivals make no money designing the scent: their margin is on every steel drum of fragrance shipped. The more they ship, the better the return on the initial investment in research. A top perfumier could earn £500,000 a year, and Quest poached a few when it launched a campaign to gain market share five years ago.

uest claims a record year in 1998, but will not break down its figures. However, the industry as a whole is not happy. IFF, the only quoted manufacturer, suffered a slide in sales in 1998, blaming the Asian crisis: profits, excluding special charges, are down for the second year running. Unilever recently revealed that Prestige, its fragrance arm, which markets CK and Elizabeth Arden, had a less than glorious year, but it re-

fused to give details.
It would be foolish to write off the perfume industry. It is a past master at reinventing itself. But it faces a conundrum, chasing a younger more fickle market, knowing that the cost of each launch must be amortised over years of sales.
"Young people have a lot more
money and there is image awareness at a younger age," said David Roseveare, Quest's marketing director.

But where will the perfume industry find the new Chanel No 5s and Miss Diors. There was a time when a young woman would learn about perfume from her mother and wear the same brand throughout her life. Such brand loyalty is priceless, but what teenager today would be caught dead wearing Mummy's perfume?

Among the top fragrance brands in the US are Tommy and Tommy Girl, the name expressing the casual, friendly boy-next-door image that sells the product. It seems a shame that perfume has lost its exotic, almost dangerous cachet. It has become throwaway, a danget signal that the industry ignores at its peril.

Software to speed up hard budget decisions

utting together depart-mental accounts and filing hefty travel expenses claims can be a complicated and frustrating process for

most business managers.

However, two software products have been launched this week by QSP, the London-listed IT group, which aim to solve this problem. The first, aimed at departmental managers, is called Financial Collaborator. The second, aimed at all employees who regularly have to file large expenses claims. has the truly awful name of Extensity Business Travel Man-agement Solutions.

QSP claims that Financial Collaborator is the first product of its kind to be put on the market. The software aims to make life simpler for managers by allowing them to fill in their budgets on a corporate intranet, instead of using a spreadsheet package such as Microsoft's Excel.

As soon as the budget is ready, the manager simply clicks an icon, and it can be accessed by his or her superior. This avoids the need to print out copies of budgets and send them to superiors in the internai mail, or, more commonly. having to e-mail spreadsheet

files between departments. Financial Collaborator costs about £300 per user, with QSP making the bold claim that the software usually pays for itself within 12 months. QSP says this is because it cuts costs in accounting departments, and dramatically speeds up the process of haggling over budgets that usually takes place within most companies.

Meanwhile, QSP's expenses product — launched in partnership with Extensity, the US company, - is designed to be used alongside Financial Collaborator. The product allows employees to file expenses claims directly on to a corporate intranet, bypassing the clumsy process of writing claims by hand, then sending them via internal post to the accounts department.

The software can ensure that employees buy travel tickets or other goods and services from preferred suppliers, to take advantage of corporate bulk-buying. It can also automatically authorise claims that are made within certain limits. and allows employees to file claims remotely, using a laptop computer.

Although the system paperless, companies that require receipts to accompany all expenses claims can simply



ask for them to be posted to the accounts department in an envelope, citing a reference number. Using this method, it is still possible to conduct random checks to make sure

daims are genuine.

QSP daims that when products such as Financial Collaborator and Extensity Business Travel Management Solutions are used together they can speed up the often tedious process of budgeting, leaving time free for other more important

Given the competitive nature of the accounting software market, however, it will not be long before another company claims to be able to do the same thing. better, for less money.

☐ UNIVERSE, the dance music promoter famous for its Tribal Gathering festivals, has signed a five-year sponsorship deal with Music Choice, the 50-channel subscription music service available via cable and satellite broadcasters throughout Europe. Under the deal, Universe will broadcast its own show consisting of two onehour-long dance music mixes. and act as Music Choice's dance music promoter. Music Choice is owned by Sony, Warner, EMI and BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster that is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of The Times.

COMPANIES will soon be able to make their corporate intranets look like so-called "Internet portals" such as Yahoo!. Excite and Infoseek, using one piece of software. The software. produced by Autonomy, the British technology company listed on the Easdaq stock exchange, sorts information from external and internal sources into categories, then automati-cally adds links to other related sites. The software, which can run on Windows NT and Unix computer systems, will cost about \$50,000 (about £30,000). and can be personalised for individual employees.

CHRIS AYRES

To and Flo

ONG BENG SENG, the Singaporean property entrepre-neur, and his wife. Christina, the fashion designer, have conhistently denied suggestions that the Asian crisis has left them short of a bob or two. Yet the rumour that they are trying to sell their achingly fashionable London hotels, the Metropolitan and the Halkin. simply won't go away. Now word reaches me that

Mrs Ong. variously described as "the Queen of Bond Street" and "the Greta Garbo of fashion", has quietly disposed of another of her London properties. Albero & Grana restaurant in Sloane Avenue, recognised as the capital's finest lberian eateries and an establishment beloved of "It girl" Tara



only place I can have a fag"

Palmer-Tomkinson, has been sold to Groupe Flo. the French restaurateur, for conversion to its popular Café Flo concept. Jeremy Simmons, from property agent Berkeley Sim-mons, declined to be drawn on

the sale price, although the word on the street is that it was not much more than £500,000. Scarcely enough to keep Ms Palmer-Tomkinson in Prada handbags.

THE William Hill debacle has left Warburg Dillon Read feeling rather bruised, and there is little doubt that its once-unimpeachable reputation has taken a severe battering. I was interested, therefore, to read the full-page ad in ves-terday's FT promoting Warburgs as "an investment bank of global intelligence" which "thinks differently". A little too differently for Nomura's liking. I fear.

Hot stuff

A BRONZED Keith Oates. who has apparently spent a lot of time at his home in Monaco since his exit from Marks & Spencer, made an unexpected appearance at the Retail Week Awards dinner on Tuesday. He was sitting (where else?) at the table of Odgers, the head-

hunters. Oates was diplomatically



unwilling to discuss the events that led to his "early retire-ment" from M&S, but did admit to being rather chuffed by the amount of interest being shown in bringing him out of retirement. Other guests at the event thought it most likely he will end up working overseas. Most British companies seem to think he is a bit too hot to handle. Can't think why.

Potter's bar

JUST because you're chief exthe company. That seemed to be the message coming from David Potter, the redoubtable chairman of palmtop computer maker Psion, at yesterday's

results presentation. Potter, who bears an uncanny resemblance to Spock from Star Trek, conducted the presentation almost single-handedly while the company's new chief executive, David Levin,

sat quietly in the background, looking ever so slightly peeved. When someone dared to raise the subject, Potter boomed: "This is my swansong." Pull the other one.

THE tears that have been seen welling in the eyes of Sir Reo Stakis since the company he founded accepted a E1.5 billion takeover from Ladbroke appear to have blinded him to

those rather tiresome Stock Exchange formalities. Almost a month ago, a charitable trust controlled by Sir Reo offloaded half a million Stakis £800.000. It was three weeks before he got around to alerting the Exchange to the sales.

Good health

BILL BLAIR, the well-regarded biotech analyst who was a casualty of a recent round of sackings at Flemings, is to join the emerging healthcare team being assembled by Mungo Park and David Porter at Nomura International Blair, who was based in Edinburgh, joins a team that already includes Erling Refsum, Stuart

Rollason and Karsten Hipler. Porter says Blair will be looking after "one or two slightly larger companies" along with existing Nomura clients such as Shield Diagnostics and Scotia. A lucky escape for Blair who, while casting around for a job, came perilously close to joining a PR firm.

DOMINIC WALSH

The Index-Tracking PEP

Source: Micropal LGIM. Legal & General FTSE All-Share Indea-Tracking PEP on an offer to but have haved on all PEP charges with gress income re-invested from 01 IL-95 (Legal & General since feature) in 06.012-99. Past performance from 06.04-99 tax credits on UK dividend distributions with only the above to be reclaimed by PEPs at a refluent site of 1996. Both great and pour may not pack the amount invested. Pull written chains are available on request All statements are content as as 06.02-99. The Government have announced that contributions can only be made up 1999. From that date a new tax privileged savings verticle, the Individual Sanings. to PEPs until April 1999. From that date a new tax privileged strings vehicle, the individual Savings Accessing (ISA) will be available Legal & General (Pinct). Lanned. Registered in England Sci. 2702000, Registered Office Temple Craim, 11 Queen Victoria Street. Landon ECAN 4TP. Representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal investment Authority and ISIRO for the purposes of recommending, advantag on and selling the accordance and investment products hearing Legal & General's name.

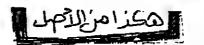
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Builder joins flight from stock market By Paul Armstrong THE flight of small and midsized companies from the stock market gained further momentum yesterday with the announcement of a proposed ly taken private. £88 million management

buyout of Wainhomes, the

Bill Ainscough, the Wainhomes chairman, who will end up with 71 per cent of the company if the deal succeeds. said that the move was the result of poor investor appetite

for building companies.

The cash offer of 140p, which has been recommended by the independent directors of Wainhomes, represents a 22 per cent premium to the closing share price on Tuesday.

Small cap plea for tax reform

WIDESPREAD tax reform is needed to end investors' growing discrimination against small public companies, an inquiry into the sector has found (Paul Armstrong writes).

The report entitled Tomorrow's Giants, argues that individual investors hold the key to resolving the imbalance but says they need greater financial incentives to invest in these stocks.

it recommends reforms to capital gains tax, including a lower marginal rate or abolition for individuals investing in the sector. The report adds that tax concessions are responsible for fund management companies

outgrowing the market. Separately, Denis Mac-Shane, MP for Rotherham, has called on the Treasury to enhance incentives for companies to set up or convert on an employee share ownership basis.

The offer is, though, somewhat less than the premium paid by venture capitalists for other quoted companies recent

Mr Ainscough, however, said that the relevant comparison in the building industry is to a company's net asset value. On this basis, the deal implies a premium of 30 per cent based on the net assets of Wainhomes at January 3.

The bid is being funded by the Bank of Scotland, which will emerge as Mr Ains-cough's partner in Wain-homes, with a stake of 29 per

Mr Ainscough said that irrevocable acceptances for 30 per cent of the stock had been received, including his 15 per cent stake.

Wainhomes yesterday an-nounced a 13 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits, to £7.1 million. Shareholders who accept the offer will retain their entitlement to the 1.5p interim dividend.

Companies with small to medium-sized market capitalisations are arguing that they have rapidly become the forgotten constituents of stock markets around the world as managers of tracker funds focus on blue chip shares.

This is in stark contrast to the welcome that institutions were giving smaller stocks when Wainhomes was first listed in 1994.

Mr Ainscough said that Wainhomes had annual pretax profits of £6.5 million when it was floated at 170p a

He said that pre-tax profit this financial year was expected to reach £14 million, but the shares were trading at 138%p yesterday, up 23½p on the day.

"We have just been unable to generate sufficient investor interest in our shares," Mr Ain-scough said. "We have had to question the benefits of being a listed company."

He said that the weak share price had also prevented Wainhomes from being able to raise



Expecting growth this year: Philip Swinstead, chairman, left, with Paul Davies, chief executive

Bullish Parity rises 10%

SHARES in Parity, the IT consultancy group, broke the recent trend in the IT sector by rising 10 per cent to 72714p after the company produced strong results alongside a bull-ish trading statement (Chris Ayres writes).

The results allayed fears that the IT sector is heading summer, caused by large companies delaying IT projects until after the millennium.

Parity said 1998 pre-tax profits had risen 48 per cent to £20 million on sales of £290 million, up 44 per cent. Earnings per share rose 30 per cent to 27.44p. A final dividend of 4.4p, up from 3.4p, will be paid on July I. bringing the further profitable growth."

payment for the year to 6.8p,

up from 5.2p. Philip Swinstead, the company's chairman, said the IT market remained strong, and that "well-managed companies should thrive" this year. He added: "We are winning good business across all of our international territories and expect

Financial advisers criticised in survey

By Fran Littlewood

ONE in five financial advisers gives bad advice, recommending products that are expensive or inappropriate or that subsequently underperform according to the results of a Consumers' Association investigation released today.

The organisation sent out undercover researchers to test a cross-section of advice given by independent financial advisers (IFAs), advisers tied to companies, as well as accountants and solicitors.

In one of the worst instances of poor advice, an adviser gave a verdict after a consultation of just two minutes, picking an unsuitable productthat generated an immediate commission payment of more than E1,500.

The adviser in question named as Richmonds Solicitors, based in Worksop, Notts, also failed to carry out a factfind required by law to obtain details of the researcher's circumstances. The Consumers' Association has reported its findings to the Law Society. Richmonds said it has begun an internal investigation.

We are concerned there are advisers who, despite the Financial Services Act, are still not following the rules," said Simon Barnes, senior researcher at the Consumers' Association's Money Research Group. He added that even when advisers did comply with regula-tions, many still gave incompetent advice.

The most widespread demonstration of incompetence came from advisers more interested in their commission than the quality of advice. Advisers tied to a particular financial company were some of the worst offenders. Where they outlined the right type of investment, many recommended poorly performing products because they were restricted to a limited company portfolio.

BUSINESS ROUNDAR SDN in pay-view link with ONdigital

SDN, the pay television venture that links United News and Media, cable group NTL and the Welsh Fourth Channel is launching a pay-per-view movie and sports service on digital terrestrial television later this year. The new service, which will have five channels at its disposal, is launching the service as a joint venture with ONdigital, the main commercial digital terrestrial service launched in November. SDN was allocated a block of digital terrestrial frequencies, covering 90 per cent of the UK by the Independent Television Commission.

cent of the UK by the independent relevision Commission, but has not formally announced its plans until now.

Consumers will be able to get access to pay-per-view movies on the the new media platforms — satellite, cable and, soon, digital represental. It is believed that SDN has not yet soon, argust representation is believed that SDN has not yet signed up digital pay-per-view rights with the Hollywood studios, but the pattern is that the studios are usually happy to negotiate with as many distribution outlets as possible.

Cheers for Heineken

HEINEKEN, the world's second largest brewer, reported a 29 per cent rise in 1998 net profit to 981 million guilders (£301 million), from 761 million guilders. The rise was auributed to a better product mix, higher sales volumes and favourable exchange rates. However, it gave warning that the outlook for the current year was uncertain, after a fall in Asian sales in late 1998. Total sales rose 2.3 per cent to 13.82 billion guilders from 13.51 billion guilders. Global beer sales rose 1.5 per cent.

Sun's Irish growth

SUN MICROSYSTEMS, the US computer company, plans to double the size of its European software centre in Dublin and hire a further 65 employees. The 40,000 sq ft expansion of the software engineering centre will help to serve a European market that accounts for 27 per cent of Sun's worldwide sales. The company said it was also considering building a new fa-cility in Dublin. The existing facility, which employs 160 peo-ple, is similar to Sun's main engineering centre in California.

Jacobs races ahead

JACOBS HOLDINGS, the company with interests in transport, shipping and property, enjoyed a rise in its 1998 pre-tax profits to £8.3 million, from £3 million, helped by a E1.4 million exceptional profit from the sale of its investment in American Port Services. Operating profits rose by 69 per cent, to £9.1 million, on turnover that rose 47 per cent, to £86.9 million. A 1.9p final dividend lifts the total to 2.45p. from 2.25p. Adjusted earnings per share rose to 5.2p, from 2.9p.

Pittards tumbles 64%

PTTTARDS, the leather goods group, said that earnings are picking up and should continue to do so this year, after reporting a 64 per cent slide in pre-tax profit in 1998. Pre-tax profits for the year came in at £1.01 million, with the vast majority of that coming in the second half, on sales that fell from £101 million to £74 million after an international decline in demand for footwear and lelsure goods. The dividend for the year remains at 3.5p. The shares perked up 3p to 32%p.

Hawtal's US disposal

HAWTAL WHITING, the automotive engineering design group whose shares have slid dramatically over the past four years, has sold its US staff placement business for up to £5 million, twice Hawtai's stock market capitalisation. The US business has been sold to Rapid Design Services for £3.7 million, plus £1.3 million due in a year's time subject to performance. Hawtai shares jumped 5p to 26½p yesterday. They have fallen from 305p in 1995 and from a 12-month high of 87½p.

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK RJR Nabisco is trying to fight off a bid by Mr Icahn, the corporate raider, to elect a hand-picked slate of directors to the

RJR NABISCO has hinted that it will spin off its international eigarette business for about \$6 billion (£3.75 billion) in an attempt to thwart the takeover bid by Carl leahn.

BAT and Philip Morris have been mentioned as potential buyers but anti-trust considerations could defy their ambitions to acquire the overseas rights to tobacco brands that include Camel.

board. Proxy votes for the board election at the annual meeting in May have to be filed by the end of next week.

RJR hints at cigarette sell-off

Mr Icahn is attempting to throw out the existing board over its reluctance to spin off Nabisco, the 80 per cent-owned biscuits subsidiary. He has a 7.7 per cent stake in RJR and is now its biggest shareholder, a position that should almost certainly guarantee him a seat on the board. Mr Icahn's assault on RJR's corporate

structure is a resurrection of an earlier and long, drawn-out fight in 1995 and 1996. His first attempt to break up the company was voted down by RJR shareholders. This time, however, Mr Icahn may have a better chance of convincing shareholders that his strategy will boost the company's depressed share price.

Creating serial entrepreneurs

Loughlin Hickey encourages the Chancellor to adopt new measures to help smaller quoted companies

here are clear signs that the Government wishes to be seen as the champion of the entrepreneur and as encouraging the growth of business. But will the Chancellor take the opportunity in next week's Budget to do what is necessary and re-

define "entrepreneur"? Much emphasis so far has been directed on start-up companies in the very earliest staged companies and AIM companies, for example, attract reliefs and this is clearly welcome.

But this ignores the smaller quoted companies (SQCs) that make up the bulk of the quoted companies on the London Stock Exchange, CISCO, the SQC representative body, says SQCs represent 85 per cent of UK quoted companies and contribute almost EIO billion in tax revenues. Yet it is these firms that are struggling under the weight of the obwith precious few of the benefits.

A study has recently given warning that 800 companies should be delisted - there is simply no liquidity in their shares. These companies employ a million people yet it appears that the only option open to them is being bought out by

Trusting in the

THERE are those who argue

that accountants and the Inter-

net should keep well apart.

But this week the three char-

tered accountancy institutes of

England and Wales, Scotland

and Ireland begged to differ.

They signed an exclusive deal

with their American counter-

part to market a thing called

This is a sign that appears

Internet

WebTrust

larger ples or being taken back into private hands. It would appear there is a much greater equity gap in the UK than previously thought. Quite simply we need a much

wider definition of entrepreneurship. The present measures are inappropriate — the £15 million asset limit for Enterprise Investment Scheme income tax and capital gains deferral has no direct relevance to need for equity. recent government-

sponsored reports, there is the repeated theme of encouraging serial" entrepreneurship. If a major plank of policy is to encourage equity investment, so providing liquidity and access to funds for expansion, there should be a coherent package of measures that supports this.

A first step is to encourage direct share ownership by individuals. The impact of the structural change to capital gains through the introduction of raper relief is to discourage "serial" investment because taper relief encourages long-term hold-ing. These two objectives could be combined by "pooling" cer-tain types of investment and treating them as one asset for

capital gains tax purposes. In other words, SQCs



Loughlin Hickey says current measures are inappropriate

vestment that investors can switch between without losing CGT taper relief. This would mean that provided the same type of asset were held, the taper relief would apply as if the asset were held throughout the investment period. Disposals

reinvested in those type of assets would not be chargeable events. It would assist further if that reinvestment could be widen the definition of compa-

by way of purchase of shares as well as share subscription. Secondly, it would help to encompass all companies outside the FTSE 350.

As the focus of large investors turns to the largest companies there is a balance towards burden rather than reward for the SQCs. In a recent DTIsponsored report on dialogue between SOCs and fund managers, Stephen Byers, Trade Secretary, and Kenneth Clarke, president of CISCO, pointed out that some of these SQCs will be the international blue chip success

stories of tomorrow.
It would be a tragedy if these companies gave up the fight of being part of a vibrant middle market. This is a vital bridge both for unquoted companies that wish to join their ranks and provides the spring-board to refresh the ranks of the larger quoted companies.

Finally, the Government should continue to encourage alternative sources of equity. The recent consultation on tax reliefs for corporate venturing should be encouraged so that larger corporates might become serial entrepreneurs.

Tony Blair, in his foreword to the recent White Paper Our Competitive Future, included Government in his call to do much more to foster a new entrepreneurial spirit in the UK. The Chancellor next week has a golden chance to carry out

Loughlin Hickey is a partner in KPMG Tax Advisers

YOU might have thought that the idea of the US Institute of Management Accountants publishing a magazine called Management Accounting had a certain logic to it. But the institute has decided that this is no longer on. From this month the publication will become a littleseen scholarly quarterly. And in its place the institute's monthly read will be the much more trendy Strategic Finance.

The Budget bodgers who just won't listen

ROBERT

BRUCE

fect everyone, the traditional beer, fags and tuppence on income tax" headline; and there are the other measures dealing with the more obscure parts of the tax system, which indirectly affect everyone but are so complex that they cannot be reduced to a popular headline. Governments and Chancellors of the Excheqner love the first category. It brings them, they hope, glory and a boost in the polls. But by and large they increasingly couldn't care less

about the second category.

They want to block a loophole here, or be seen to be boosting small business there. But they lack the informed judgment to make decisions that are effective in the long term. In recent years they have become Budget bodgers when it comes to complex tax matters.
What is worse is that, while lacking the expertise themselves, they have started, like all true incompetents, to refuse

to listen to expert advice, wherever it comes from. It would be far better, as John Whiting, of Pricewaterhouse-Coopers, would suggest, if the Chancellor made one statement about the headline stuff and then put the detailed measures out to seri-ous consultation and debate.

But such a system would require governments to listen to the arguments. At present they don't bother. As one weary senior member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation put it "Why do we bother making representations point-

ing out the problems. No one is listening." The process of parliamentary scrutiny of complex financial or tax legislation is a sham. The lengthy examination of last year's Finance Bill produced just two new clauses and a dozen typographical changes. The system of expert MPs going through complex legislation and smoothing out the howlers and the pitfalls simply doesn't exist.

A good example is the recent scrutiny of the legislation to introduce the Working Families
Tax Credit. The Standing Committee of 25 MPs spent more than 12 hours diligently going through it. clause by clause. Dozens of substantive amendments were proposed reflecting widespread concerns from MPs, profes-sional bodies and business that this new welfare benefit contained serious practical flaws.

The end result shows just how much the Government is prepared to listen to the wealth of expert opinion and experience on

BUDGETS tend to divide nearly into two. hand. Two corrections were made — one clause was re-numbered and an apostrophe clause was re-numbered and an apostrophe was added. It is laughable.

This was what Eric Pickles, MP for Brentwood and Ongar, had to say during the last session: The use of secondary legislation has increased. Committees do not have the opportunity to affect that legislation. About 1,600 statutory instruments were passed by the House last year. Few received the scrutiny that they should have received. It matters not a jot or tittle if opposition mbers, or even government members. have worries that the statutory instrument may be fundamentally flawed, because committees cannot change it; they must take it or leave it."

The results of such ignorance and incompetence are inevitable, as Mr Pickles went on to detail. "A couple of weeks after a committee has finished one gets a nice little note

saying: 'We have now discovered that Clause 37 has proved to be inadequate and is creating a problem that was unfore-seen at the time." To which Mr Pickles's response is forthright. "Was it heck unforeseen

This refusal to listen to anyone who might be expert in the subject, if only to limit the amount of egg that will be spread over the Government's face later, is not simply a feature of the current administration. It has been growing over several years. The shambles of the Child Support Agency came about via the same route.

The end result, as Mr Pickles points out, is simple. "All the clauses of the Bill might as well be one clause saying that the Government can do what they want. It will affect the liberty, the rights and purse or wallet of our electors. They expect us to give the Bill some scrutiny."

It is not as though the practical conse-quences of this attitude of ignoring consultaon have no dire political consequences. When the Government tinkered with tax credits on dividends last year it cannot have realised that by doing so it was also cutting the income of 300,000 pensioners by 20 per

The last words in the Standing Committee fell to Steve Webb, MP for Northavon, and someone who, after nine years of working for the Institute for Fiscal Studies, knows his stuff. "The triumphant moment was the addition of that apostrophe," he said. He wasn't sure whether he was laughing or crying.

on websites to show potential customers that chartered acbaseball pitchers and one of countants have given a particu-

lar company a good going over and that their transactions with it are likely to be secure. private and that they will get what they had ordered.

So confident were the institutes that they gave some examples of sites in America where WebTrust could be viewed. One of these was the intriguingly named www.rocketroger. This turned out to be the site associated with Roger Clemens, one of the finest of

the longest-standing of players for the Boston Red Sox.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

In normal circumstances it doubtless sells replica Roger Clemens kit. But log on now and you just get one message. "Roger Clemens traded to the Yankees," it reads. No sign of a WebTrust logo at all.

THIS is the week when the

name of Moores Rowland van-

ishes as it merges into BDO

Stoy Hayward. But a phoenix

Chiltern hundreds Why? Because Chiltern has

is at hand. The international network to which they used to belong is called Moores Rowland International. And it was obviously short of a UK partner as a result. So what has MRI International done? It has linked up with the Chiltern Group, the fast-growing independent tax consultancy.

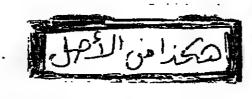
become the refuge over the past few years for literally doz-

ens of disaffected Moores Row-

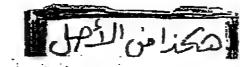
land partners and managers.

Exiles they may be but Moores Rowland lives on. Page turner

ROBERT BRUCE



It is not the



Psion to hold fundamental business review

By Chris Ayres

PSION, the palmtop computer manufacturer, is to undertake a fundamental review of its business before the summer and gave warning that prof-its would be hit by further investment in its Symbian joint venture.

Shares of the company - which more than quadrupled in value after the creation of Symbian, the mobile phone handset venture with Ericsson. Nokia and Motorola - closed last night at 737½p down 23½p.

Epoc operating system the world Standard for so-called "third generation" mobile phones — which will be able to access the Internet and send emails - putting it in direct competition with Microsoft, which has identical plans for its Windows CE software. Symbian also faces competition from IT groups such as 3Com,

Sun Microsystems and Oracle. It is thought that Psion's review could see the sale of its troubled Dacom subsidiary, which makes mo-

Symbian aims to make Psion's dems for laptop computers. David poc operating system the world Potter, the company's chairman, reandard for so-called "third generative to comment but admitted that the company needed "focus". He also said Psion was in a strong position to make acquisitions, take part in further joint ventures and concentrate more on corporate markets.

Mr Potter said a flotation of Symbian within two to three years was a possibility. However, he added that Psion may also consider selling its stake in Symbian, as Psion would benefit from royalties on its software.

Urging the City to concentrate on the long-term prospects for Psion, he said Microsoft's Windows CE software had so far failed to gain significant market share, although he admitted that 3Com's Palm Pilot products had "gained wide acceptance" at the lower end of the market.

Psion's results for 1998, published yesterday, showed only a 4 per cent rise in underlying pre-tax profits to E11.9 million, cocluding a one-off gain of E11.4 million from the creation of Symbian. Sales rose 13 per cent to

share were up 6 per cent to 10.93p. A firml dividend of 2p (1.8p) will be paid

on May 14, bringing the total pay-ment for the year to 2.8p (2.5p). Psion repeated warnings that Da-com would be hit by rapidly changing market conditions. It also said that its computer division - which produces the handheld personal organisers for which the company is famous - saw sales alump 16 per cent.

City Diary, page 31

Wates to narrow NAV ·

Company of the same

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CONTRACTOR OF THE

Wates City of London Properties, yesterday became the latest property company to signal distress at its share price performance and state its intention to sell investments in a bid to narrow the discount to net asset value.

The company reported pre-tax profits for 1998 up to £9.1 million from £6.3 million while its net asset value rose from 104.4p to per share to 115.5p. The shares yesterday traded at 72p. A dividend for the year of 0.4p is being paid.

ScotEq on the up Scottish Equitable, the pen-sion provider owned by the Aegon, the Dutch-based international insurer, said pre-tax profits in its UK operations rose by 23 per cent last year to £70 million. Total premium income in 1998 rose 23 per cent to £2.7 billion with annualised premium income up by 19 per cent.

Atkins contract

WS Atkins, the technology consultancy, has been brought in to check the Year 2000 debugging verification programme in the telecoms industry. Oftel, the telecoms watchdog, wants WS Atkins to verify the £500 million assess ment programme. Its findings will be published at the end of next month.

Antisoma trial

Antisoma, the London cancer therapy firm that re-cently floated on Easdaq, has received approval to begin a phase II trial of its lead product for patients suffering from eastric can-



Eddie Marchbanks, chairman and chief executive of Photobition Group, the graphics display company, which intends to spend up to £20 million on a US acquisition by June. Photobition's only US graphics business is in New York and it says clients want a nationwide service. Group pre-tax interim profits rose 90 per cent, to £4.6 million. The dividend is 0.65p (0.6p)

Setback for Britannic as life value falls £31m

SHARES in Britannic Assurance, the home service insurer, fell 7 per cent to £10.68 yesterday after the company shocked the City with a sharp fall in the value of its business.

The company, based in Birmingham, revealed that the embedded value of its longterm life insurance business had fallen from £438.2 million to £407.1 million during 1998, surprising most analysts who had forecast growth in this key valuation figure.

Analysts blamed several factors for the E31 million decrease but top of the list was Britannic's decision to double

said the extra ELSO million would go towards compensating victims identified in the second phase of the company's pensions review. However, he admitted the figure could rise later this year.

Of greater significance for shareholders, however, was the dramatic change in Britannic's investment fortunes. Following 22 per cent investment returns in 1997, the City was disappointed when the company only returned 9 per cent on its investments last year, knocking £45 million from shareholders'

profits last year.

the future. By adjusting its actuarial calculations to take account of falling gilt yields Britannie knocked a £75.9 million hole in shareholders' achieved profits.

Britannic's sensitivity to falling interest rates took the City by surprise. Britannic is strongly capitalised and takes pride in being able to invest more of its money in the stock market than rival insurers. However, no other insurer has had to make this level of adjustment during the latest round of annual results.

Analysts said the value of the existing business - the embedded value - was more significant with Britannic than with other insurers as its

rate of new business growth has been low in recent years. However, after two years of reorganising its sales force, Britannic does appear to be recovering on this front. Excluding rebated DSS pensions, new business rose 14.9 per cent to £52.9 million, while

pre-tax operating profit rose 8.8 per cent to £158.7 million. In a break from tradition, the company is also beginning to target independent financial advisers to sell its Portfolio Bond.

With £1 billion of cash to spare, Britannic is keen to snap up a mutual insurer. After failing to buy NPI last year, it is believed to be looking for

Aerospace group accounts delayed

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS

A DECISION by the French Government to delay approval of Aerospatiale's 1998 accounts has led to accusations that Lagardère, the industrial conglomerate, was attempting to reduce the cost of its stake in the aerospace group that is due to be partially privatised.

The accounts were due to be approved at a hoard meeting on Tuesday, but were taken off the agenda at the last

Yesterday Aerospatiale said the Government, the majority shareholder, had asked for more time to examine the accounts, which had been completed only on Sunday and that the delay was technical.

Les Echos, the newspaper, yesterday suggested the exami-nation of the accounts had been delayed at the request of Lagardere, which is to become the biggest single shareholder in the new Aerospatiale. Lagar-dere denied the allegation.

Lagardère will hold a 33 per cent stake in the fifth-biggest European civil and military aerospace group, paying with its Matra unit plus a maximum cash payment of €300 million (£206 million).

If the company significantly outperforms the stock market index over two years, Lagardère will pay just £91 million.

The Paris bourse appeared to support this theory, with Lagardère shares among the sharpest gainers, rising 2.16 per cent to £33.10.

Aerospatiale is to be partially privatised through a merger with Lagardère's Matra Hautes Technologies subsidiary as part of efforts to consolidate the French defence industry ahead of the planned creation of a pan-European defence and aeronautics group.

other targets such as Scottish Life or Scottish Provident. Denmark bus deal for Arriva BY FRASER NELSON

THE rush by UK bus groups to buy newly privatised coun-terparts in northern Europe continued yesterday as Arriva agreed to pay £13.7 million for a leading Danish operator. Buying Bus Danmark gives

Arriva 18 per cent of the market in Denmark and puts it in competition in southern Sweden, where Bus Danmark also operates, with the UK's Stagecoach and its Swebus arm.

Shares in Arriva fell 5p to 3864 n on fear that it may have overpaid for Bus Danmark. which made 1998 profits of £2.8 million on sales of £84.9 million. Its 3.2 per cent profit margin is far below Arriva's UK average of 13.8 per cent. Arriva said this was typical for a newly privatised company.

In The Netherlands, Arriva is likely to be joined by its UK rival Go-Ahead. Go-Ahead said that, of the eight Dutch bus units. Arriva had bought two in the north, and Go-Ahead was viewing the rest. Arriva cannot bid against Go-Ahead in the south because of its fifth of the market through the Veonn and Hanze units.

Wilson Bowden cautious

BY ROBERT COLE

WILSON BOWDEN, the housebuilder, remains causector despite securing a 10 per cent increase in 1998 on the average price at which it sells houses.

Some of the rise in average prices came as Wilson built more homes in the South, where property prices are higher. But the company also recorded a 22 per cent increase in underlying pre-tax

The company built 3,287 homes last year, up from 3,007 in 1997. Most of its homes are detached three, four or fivebedroomed houses.

Headline pre-tax profits for the year to December 31 rose 32 per cent to E88.5 million but this figure was inflated by a one-off pension refund from the closure of an executive

scheme.
Adjusted earnings per share were 61.3p against 48.7p. The final dividend is 11p, meaning that the total for the year is up 20 per cent to 15p.

Tempus, page 30

Byers warning to power companies

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

POWER companies yesterday came under renewed pressure from the Government to cut the high prices they charge to low-income and pre-payment customers.

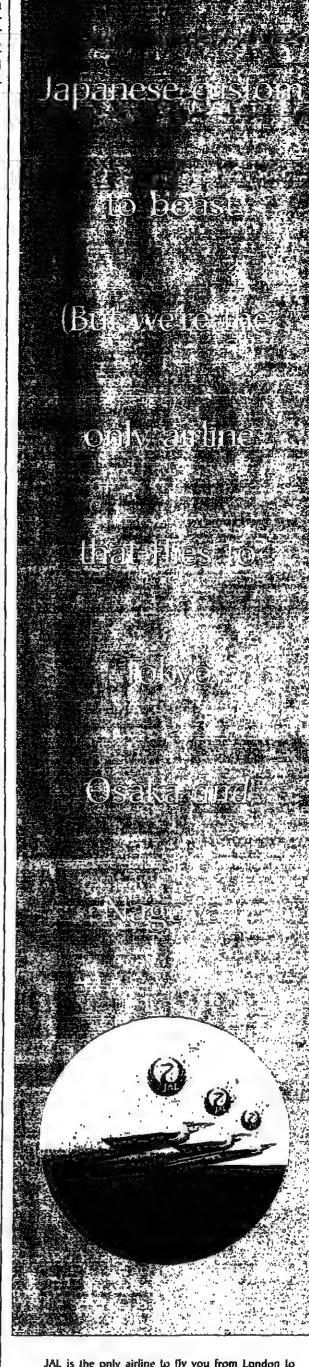
Stephen Byers, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, told the electricity industry last night. "The gap between pre-payment meter (PPM) tariffs and direct debit tariffs could become unacceptably high. Those on PPMs already pay significantly more for electricity (9 per cent) and gas (14 per cent) than those who pay by direct debit."

In his first speech to the industry, Mr Byers repeated government plans to force

CHANGING TIMES

utility regulators to consider the needs of low-income customers and the sick in their guidelines to companies. This will come in the Utility Regulation Bill, which will also give ministers the power to set social and environmental objectives for the regula-

Separately, the Gas Consumers Council gave warning that competitive companies were tightening their debt management and cutting more customers off supply. Last year 100,000 more households were fitted with PPMs, the first method usually used by gas companies to tackle poor payers.



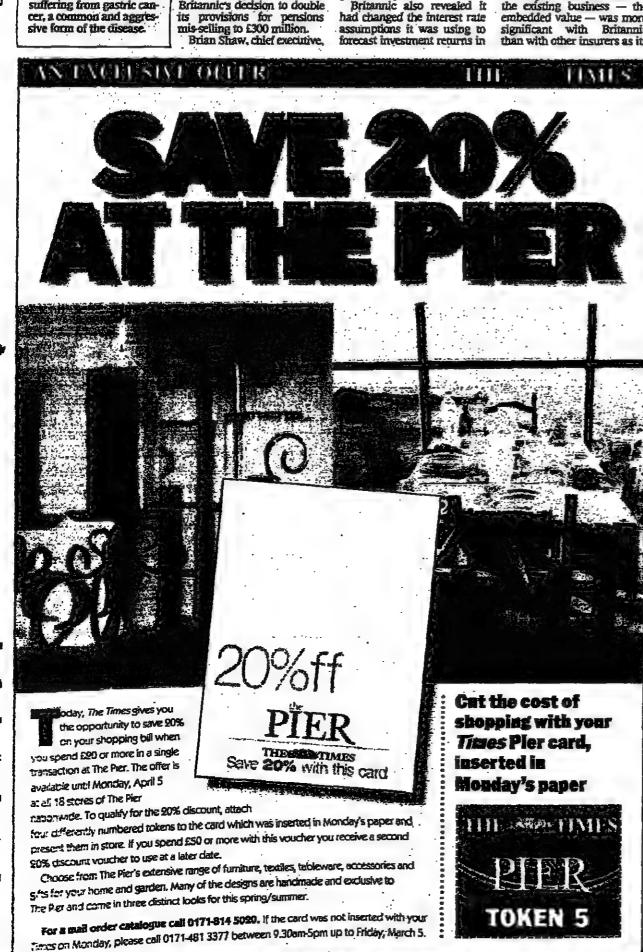
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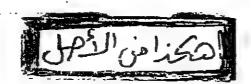
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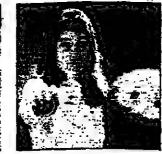
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Hitchcock's 39 Steps goes back on screen THE





CINEMA: When Elia Kazan receives his Oscar this month he will be greeted by boos. Benedict Nightingale finds out why

Legacy of a Hollywood witchhunt

on t be surprised if later this month are picketed by old men and women enraged that an 89-year-old director is receiving an honorary Oscar for his creative achievements. No. Elia Kazan is not a war criminal but some people have never lorgiven him for publicly betraying friends and colleagues back in 1952, at the height of the McCarthy persecutions. To them, he is a Cold War criminal.

How could Kazan, whose movies range from On the Waterfront to East of Eden and whose stage productions in-clude the premieres of Arthur Miller's Death of a Salesman and Tennessee Williams's Streetcar Named Desire, have ended up being thanked by a leading McCarthyite for "bringing the attention of the American people to the machinations of the Communist conspiracy for world domination"? And how was it that. thanks to scores of similar denunciations, well over 500 people were barred from doing film or television work, among them Paul Robeson, Arthur Miller, Lilian Hellman. Dashiell Hammett. Zero Mostel, Joseph Losey, Jules Dassin, Sam Wanamaker, Larry Adler and Carl Foreman?

Amazing though it must seem to younger generations.

these questions still dog the American psyche. Much of the damage was done before Joseph McCarthy, who in any case was more concerned with the 205 Communists he claimed were working for the State Department, entered the Senate. The House Un-Ameri-Activities Committee (HUAC) had been set up in 1934, largely to investigate

Kazan is not a war criminal, but to those he betrayed he is a Cold War

criminal?

Nazi propaganda, but soon ac-quired its lasting right-wing tilt. In 1938 its cabal of anti-Roosevelt Republicans fatally wounded the Federal Theatre Project, a network of companies akin to an American national theatre - at one point in the inquisition asking its director if Christopher Marlowe was a Communist and if "Mr Euripides was guilty of teach-

ing class consciousness". Given Stalin's territorial predations, it is not surprising that after the Second World War such men found it ever 1947 HUAC took on Hollywood, quizzing a slippery Brecht (who denied CP mem-bership and said he "thought I am certain" he had not attended Communist meetings in America), getting staunch sup-port from Ronald Reagan, Gary Cooper and Walt Disney (who feared that radical screen-writers might subvert Mickey Mouse) and destroying the careers of their first important "unfriendly" witnesses, the so-called Hollywood Ten. They put up a fierce fight, Al-

bert Maltz comparing the HUAC chairman J. Parnell Thomas and his notoriously anti-Semitic sidekick, John Rankin, with Goebbels and Himmler. But their attempts to hide behind the First Amendment, which protects free speech and association. did not prevent them being cited for contempt and imprisoned for terms of up to a year. Ring Lardner Jr actually ended up in a cell near Thomas. who served time for financial wrongdoing. It was the start of what Lil-

lian Hellman, in the title of a famous book, called Scoundrel Time. Almost all of those whom folly or idealism had driven into the CP in the 1930s had left it: but, prodded by the American Legion and other vigilante groups, the movie



Connections: Elia Kazan and Marion Brando on the set of On the Waterfront, based on the novel by Budd Schulberg, who also testified to the HUAC

producers set up a blacklist for those even suspected of Com-munist sympathies. To be sub-poenaed by HUAC was to be suspended or fired and to testify was to face choices that were

horribly clear by the time Ka-zan made his "friendly" appearance.

If you "took the fifth", meaning the amendment against self-incrimination, you would lose any chance of future employment. If you didn't and atoned for your former radicalism by "naming names", you could resume your career. If ou didn't take the fifth yet refused to name names, you might go to prison for contempt, as Dashiell Hammett and others were to do.

In 1957 an obscure writer called Martin Berkeley happily named 162 names, and others less willingly followed: among them, the actors Ster-ling Hayden and Lee J. Cobb. the writers Clifford Odets and Budd Schulberg, and, maybe because he feared his homosexuality might otherwise be publicly revealed, the choreographer Jerome Robbins.

Yet many were more robust. The actor Lionel Stander said. yes, he would name un-American subversives, and made it clear he meant HUAC. Paul Robeson, whose income had fallen from £105,000 to £2,000 after his naming, indignantly refused to denounce a Soviet state where "I felt for the first time like a full human being". A faux-naive Zero Mostel into declaring that, yes, his mimicry of a butterfly might "contribute directly to the propaganda effort of the Commu-

nist Party". So why did Kazan publicly promise HUAC to do "anything you consider necessary or valuable to help"? Why did he name II names, among them one of America's great Lears, Morris Carnovsky, and the actor J. Edward Bromberg, who was hauled before HUAC against his doctor's orders and died soon after-wards? In an ad in The New York Times Kazan, who had belonged to the party between 1934 and 1936, claimed to be an honest liberal who felt that secrecy gave succour to Communists engaged on "a dangerous and alien conspiracy against the United States.

Hellman called this "pious shit" and many others thought he was concerned only with a career he could anyway have perpetuated on Broadway, where blacklisting was less ef-fective than in film, radio and television. But his great friend Arthur Miller, who thought HUAC "vile", ended up not only forgiving him but letting him direct the autobiographical After the Fall, in which a lightly disguised Kazan appals the protagonist by nam-ing names. To be barred

of the Earth itself," explained Miller later. "He always said he came from survivors and

the job was to survive." Miller himself behaved very differently at his hearing. A venomous press campaign had already led to his being dropped as the writer of a film about New York street youth. He had upset HUAC with The Crucible, which pointedly involved the 17th-century Salem witchhunts and was one of the very few provocative plays to emerge from an era where the arts understandably became defensive and bland

ike Hellman, who told HUAC she would not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashtons", Miller was candid about his radical past but refused to name names. His sentence for contempt - a \$500 fine and a suspended 30-day jail sentence — was over-turned on appeal. This was 1957, by when Mo-

Carthy had fallen and HUAC was beginning to weary the public and worry even its conservative supporters. Blacklisting had been shown to be casual or arbitrary. The actress Martha Scott was mistaken for Hazel Scott and denied

from his metier would for him work; Jean Muir was fired be a nightmarish overturning from her television show after sending a congratulatory tele-gram to Stanislavsky.

There had been terrible pub-

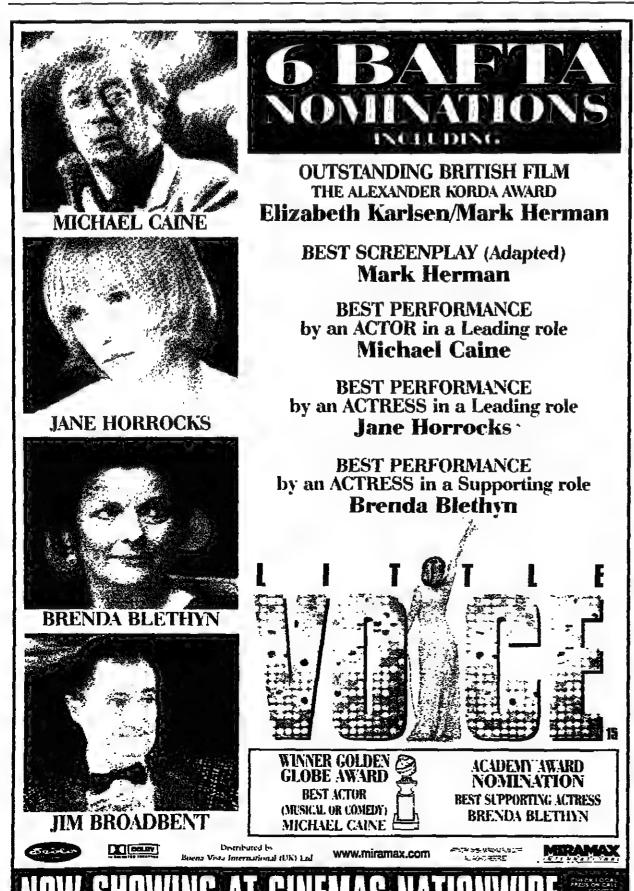
licity in Europe, where many banned writers fied, often disguising their names when they had a film credit. Pierre Boulle, who won an Oscar for his screenplay of The Bridge on the River Kwai, was actually Carl Foreman. Robert Rich. honoured for The Brave One. was Dalton Trumbo who famously typed his scripts in the bath at night. The Great Fear was no Stalinist terror, but it served Moscow's propaganda by making "free" America look hypocritical and repressive. It thwarted creativity, impoverished families, destroyed triendships, made cowards of respected men and left a bitterness that recently had Arthur Laurents, the composer of West Side Story, denouncing Robbins and Kazan as "evil" So can you say anything posi-tive about it? Yes, this.

England got most of the exiles, and some of them stayed.
Would Losey have made The
Servant, or Adler blown his
harmonica in Genevieve, or
Wanamaker have built his marvellous replica of Shakespeare's Globe, if McCarthyism had not chased them from their homeland? Probably not.

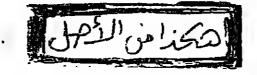
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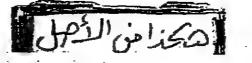
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Remarkable, po









Things go lumpy in the night

NEW MOVIES: Oprah Winfrey

shines, but Beloved wavers

uneasily between poltergeists and polemic, says James Christopher

he opening seconds of Jonathan Demme's Beloved are like something out of The Amityville Horror. A mirror spookily smashes, doors slam violently of their own accord, and Sethe's family dog is shing against the kitchen wall with such force that one of its eyes pops out. There's a poltergeist at play in Oprah Win-irey's ramshackle house in Onio, 1865. But the talkshow hostess doesn't turn a hair as she picks up the bloody marble in her fingers and deftly dos it back into the dog's eye

mingale on out

10 mg

This is a gripping opening, but a misleading piece of scene sening. Not because Winfrey is on the receiving end of a slice of misery no less wild or contrived than any in her chat shows, but because Demme's film shifts uneasily between ghost story, horrific tale of survival and meditation on blacks trying to scrape a dis-mal living in the brave new world of freedom. It's a noble tilt at Toni Morrison's complex Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. There are summing period visuals and harrowing, se-pia-tinted flashbacks. But the film is overlong, frequently la-boured and ultimately too enamoured of its own lavish camerawark to engage us where it really matters: the heart.

Surprisingly, the performances, notably Winfrey's as Sethe, the proud Southern matriarch, could hardly be bettered. Winfrey spent nearly a decade plotting to play this role and she does it with a gritty, soul-baring realism thans impossible to fault. Despite the memories of lynch mobs that claimed her family. Sethe refuses to leave her haunted house and festers behind an accusing stare and heavy jowis. Her wary daughter. Denver (Kimberly Elise), can barely step beyond the front porch. And the superstitious locals treat them like lepers.

takes are duly raised when Paul D (Danny Glover), a grizzled family friend, tramps back into Sethe's life after 18 bruising years on the road. provokes a supernatural frenzy that would send most people screaming to the hills. As they prise old secrets from each other, the house rattles like a skeleton closet, the kitchen table does its best to bisect Glover, and Thandie Newton's utterly weird waif, Belowed, crawls out of a nearby swamp in a pristine Victorian dress and pionics herself down for supper. She speaks with a

Beloved Warner Village West End 15, 171 mins Oprah Winfrey in flabby epic about the price of

freedom .. Festen Curzon Soho 15, 106 mins Biting, black Danish comedy

Kini & Adams NFT. 93 mins Zimbabwe buddies have heads turned by money The 39 Steps Barbican U. 86 mins John Buchan's ripping

guttural male voice and behaves like a damaged infant. Sethe promptly adopts her.
There's something humy

yarn magnificently hijacked by Hitchcock

about that girl," mutters Glover, wairling the voluptuous zombie cram huge wedges of gingerbread into her mouth. If it wasn't for Newton's spellbinding performance, all big black eyes and slack jaw, this comical failure to spot the poltergeist at two paces would be utterly corny.

As it is, the story congeals

like bad blood. Beloved rapidly mutates from ungovernable stendaughter into avenging figure of hate as the dreadful truth about her-murder, and Sethe's guilt, begins to dawn

Denome tries to read the film into the actors' faces, but everywhere his make-up department subverts him. The unsettling close-ups that squeeze every emotional ounce from Winfrey's ... operatic stares, Glover's troubled. squint and Newton's blank looks end up as a sweepstake of who's got the worst teeth.

The grainy memories of Sethe's desperate measures to prevent her young family from being enslaved are beautifully shot, but constipute the film. As we grind towards the third hour, we are so battered by images of brutality that they This is a hardworking, scrupulously principled film, but it takes what feels like centuries to overstate the obvious unfairness of slavery, and the even more obvious unfairness of be-

In a week heaving with ghosts, guilt and dysfunction, Festen (Danish for "celebration") is out there in a class of its own. The 29-year-old Thomas Vinterberg's biting, black



Paul D (Danny Glover) and the redoubtable Sethe (Oprah Winfrey) snatch a moment of happiness amid all the nasty goings on in the worthy, lengthy and disappointing Beloved

satire is the Spinal Tap of ismily reunions. Grotesque, ghast-ly and extremely funny, the film charts the sixtieth birthday party of the forbidding owner of an upmarket country hotel. With its shaky camera angles, natural lighting and abrasive documentary-style techniques, it looks as if it's been shot from Roger Cook's

The effect is startlingly fresh and deliciously voyeuristic. The grown-up children, the manic-depressive uncles and crusty grandparents arrive packing their problems like double-barrelled shotgums. Michael (Thomas Bo Larsen), the unhinged, out-of-lavour youngest brother, sings Nazi songs and takes swings at his wife. Helene, the flaky, alcoholic oldest sister, finds her young

est brother, Christian (Ulrich Thomsen), seemingly the most sensible of all and still mourning the death of his twin, who drops the bombshells.

Before the main course is finished be's already been manhandled out of the dining room at least twice, notably for standing up and toasting his father for sexually abusing both himself and his dead sister when they were young. The grim determination of the guests to plough through the courses, and everyone else's polite, excruciating speeches, becomes increasingly surreal and farcical. The experience is not a million miles removed from watching a venerable in-stitution pull its parts down in

Henning Moritzen, as the patriarch, sits through the hutery-eyed disbelief. The hotel flunkies, notably Lars the hapless receptionist and Kim the Gormenghast cook, put in priceless cameos. It's a cleverly edited piece of observational mischief, well worth seeking out.

An equally strange lot is Kini & Adams, Idrissa Ouedraogo's African buddy movie. This is the rising young director's first English language film, and, for the most part, it's an enchanting piece of storytelling. Here the two Zimbabwean peasants of the title dream of the day they can repair their rusty old Rover and drive off to the city and the big time. It's an African road movie, still awaiting wheels.

Inevitably the beautiful friendship comes unstuck when their dreams start to look like a vague possibility. Both men find well-paid work in a local quarry, but Kini's head is turned when he is promoted, while the good-natured Adams gets turned over by a spiteful prostitute. The film, ostensibly a simplistic parable about the evils of materialism. deploys enough beefy acting to lift it out of the pulpit. David Mohloki (Adams) and Vusi Kuneni (Kini) are perfectly matched as proud friends and

emotional liabilities, and John Kani's craggy, manipulative quarry manager oozes enough charisma to charm a bulldoz-er. But Ouedraogo can't resist the urge to soup up his themes with a self-destructive splurge of grand statements, shot against the magnificent Zimbabwe landscape.

Hitchcock too had a weakness for grand gestures, but his 1935 adaptation of John Buchan's The 39 Steps loses nothing by it. His lingering shot of the Forth Road Bridge is more evocative and memorable than any piece of installation art you care to name. The new print, the centrepiece of the Hitchcock season at the Barbican, has lost none of the Boy's Own ripping charm of

nat's dashing Richard Hannay is forced to flee both the police and a ruthless spy ring when his bread knife ends up in the back of a mysterious woman he meets at a music hall. Despite the Brylcreem bounce, pencil moustache and droll honesty, Donat still fails to convince anyone of his innocence, or the imminent smuggling of vital state secrets.

The film has its Morris Minor moments. Forced to track down Godfrey Tearle's smooth-talking villain, Donat cuts a swath through the Scottish Highlands, pursued by police through the Highland gorse. His itinerary includes an overnight stop in a lonely cottage where he is glared at by John Laurie's flint-faced crofter and helped by Peggy Ashcroft's wistfully frustrated

What one forgets is the fabu-lous wit with which Hitchcock pulls off these setpieces, not least the scene where Donat is mistaken for a celebrity at a local hustings and has to improvise a speech not knowing who or what he's meant to be supporting. They don't make fireside thrillers like this any more, and more's the pity.

CITY OF ANGELS Warner DVD, 12, 1998 ADDED features for this

DVD release include a making-of documentary and a sprinkling of cut scenes with a chatty commentary from director Brad Silverling and his editor. The package gives an extra boost to this surprising romantic comedy, inspired by Wim Wenders's art-house hit Wings of Desire. Meg Ryan is a Los Angeles heart surgeon at the crossroads of life. Enter Nicolas Cage, a hover-ing angel who falls under her spell and assumes hu-

THE LION KING II: SIMBA'S PRIDE Disney, U. 1998

man form. Very polished.

the original movie a thousand times. So now you can buy the made-for-video sequel, which features less histrous animation, most of the same characters (minus Jeremy Irons's Scar) and a similar batch of songs. Simba's pride is his new offspring Kiara, voiced by Neve Camp-bell, who wanders off for some dangerous adventures

On the wings of love

NEW, ON! VIDEO

in the Outlands and speaks in the American-kid argot now in fashion among the animal kingdom. The film is also available in the DVD format: sharper picture, fuller sound, though older view-ers in search of truly imaginative entertainment will still be left empty-handed.

III LOCK, STOCK AND TWO SMOKING BARRELS

PolyGram, 18. 1998 BLACK humour runs riot in Guy Ritchie's cheeky British comedy thriller about a bunch of lowlife chums with half a million pounds to find before gangster and porn baron Hatchet Harry atRitchie gets lively playing from his eclectic cast, which ranges from Jason Flemyng and Dexter Fletcher to soccer hardman Vinnie Jones and East End legend Lenny McLean, former heavy-weight bare-knuckle champion of the world. A rental re-

BFI, E, 1919 NO video collector with an

historical bent should miss this marvellous release: Frank Hurley's photographic record of Sir Ernest Shackleton's attempt to cross Ant-arctics in 1914-16, one of those glorious failures we British love to commemorate. Pack ice ultimately an awesome spectacle in Hurley's photography, now preserved in a beautiful and painstakingly restored print after a herculean effort by the National Film and Television Archive. Neil Brand's music gives the sometimes random images lots of love and support.

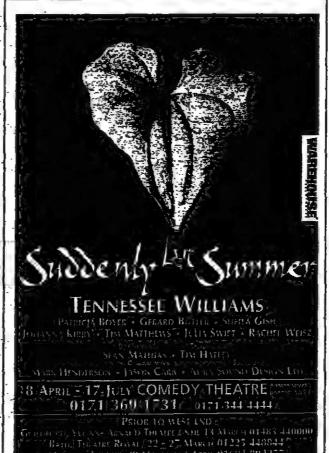
GEOFF BROWN





*** "Remarkable, poignant...Life-Affirming... Magnificently enthralling...Don't miss it."

Vinicius de Oliveira Fernanda Montenegro





State of the second seco

DANCE & STHEATRE v as Juan

to Days of Rain

Den Fall

AP. 27

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

EMERSON STRING QUARTET: Head as one of the finest chamber engembles of our time, the Emersons make a welcome South Bank return with a performance of Schuben's Deah and the Maden coupled with string quartets by Mozard and Sibelius, Queen Elizabeth Hell (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm. [5]

MICHAEL FEINSTEIN: The New York performer of popular classics and a one-time protégé of ira Gerstwan, angs a selection of some of the Gerstwan brothers' innuronal malodes Gerehwn brothers' immortal mak interspersed with reminiscences Barbican (0171-638 8891). Tomoth.

BLUE HEART: Caryl Churchill's pair of plays Heart's Deare and Blue Kettle express lamily disruption through tricks with words. Max Stattord-Clark directs for Out Of Joint.

Pleasance (0171-809 1900). Opens tonight, 8pm.

LE VIOLON D'INGRES. TO pany its exhibition Portraits by ingre-the National Gallery hosts a recite! I the National Gallery house a record of violarist Leurent Korcia and planist Mari-Josèphe Jude. The tocus of the programme is Caprice No 24 by Paganini, a contemporary of the 19th-century painter, pretaced by please by Jamáceli, Yasye and Ravel, National Gallery (0.171-838 3321). Tonight, 7.30pm. (§)

CAMBREDGE: The Royal Ballet's Dance Bites four leaturing two paral programmes shown simultaneously aparate venues lorges ahead. The here includes new works by his Saldwin and William Tuckett, as



Michael Feinstein entertains at the Barbican

well as more lamilar lare from Frederick Ashton and Ashley Page. Com Exchange (01223 357851). To-night-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. COLCHESTER: Tim Brooks-Taylor Contract lets Intercons I ayor and Brian Murphy are members of the hopeless gang elsentraindedly outwitted by Duice Gray in The Ladyidliers. Adapted by Giles Crott, directed by Richard Baron. Mercury Theatre (0.1206 573948). Opens tonight, 8pm.

LEEDS: Melcolm Sutherland directs his new version of Wuthering Heights. Elisabeth Dermot Walsh and Chook Sibtain play the lovers. Change (0113-213 7700). (5) Opens tonight, 7,30pm,

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theetre showing in Lando M House full, returns only D Some seats available D Seats at all prices

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

In MACBETH: Rufus Sewell and Saily Deater play the superstitious trame and his misses in John Crowley's production. Crowley's production. Queens, W1 (0171-494 5041).

 SLAVA'S SNOWSHOW: The excellent Russian clown and mma artist Slava Polumin returns, with new material and new clowns, as well as his unforgatishle finale. See review,

THE COLOUR OF JUSTICE: THE STEPHEN LAWRENCE INQUIRTY: Tracke Theatr's gripping account of the scheme of missister. Victoria Palace of States lace (0171-834 1317). SHOCKHEADED PETER: The

Sossorman is bacic wonderfully sinister show by the Cultural Industry learn with the Tiger Lillies and Mertyn Jacques's feisetto screech. Lyric (0181-741 6701). 👸

BARIEFACED CHIC: Pascineting Aids play here for a month before setting off on their latest national tour.

THE THIN RED LINE (15): A glittering cast of American soldiers lose their sanity in the South Pacific during the Second World War. Terrence Malick's first film for 20 years is an artistic

zel. Ben Chaolin, Nick Notte.

YOUVE GOT MAIL (PG): Builet-proof romantic blockbuster with Tom hanks and Meg Ryan who tall in love on the internet. Written and directed

PAINTED ANGELS (15): Bleak period place about the proettures who serviced the brontersmen of the Wild West. A joyless plack between the smelly pursers and the drab

wooden rooms by Jon Sanders.

TITANIC TOWN (15): Julie Welters

excets as a pugnacious Catholic housewill in this gran review of Northern Ireland's Troubles circa 1972. Roger Michell directs.

PERDITA DURANGO (18): Rosid

Tex-Mex pyschopeths who nin amok in a careless read move involving voodoo, frozen foetuses and drugs. Alex de la Iglesia directs.

UMBAN LESSID (111); Dire James Barries horror Bok livel vicetors

NEW RELEASES

by Nora Ephron.

This time Clarke Peters directs. Royal, Haymarket (0171-930 8800) & ☐ DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN: Mark Little mekes his West End debut in Rob Becker's new comedy, tracing the ongins of the manwoman distenses back to the caree.

Aposo (0171-494 5070).

☐ TALK OF THE CITY: Stephen Poliakoff's potentially lasometing play about 66C censorship in the 1930s. With David Westhead and a charlematic Angue Wright. Young Vic (0171-926 6363). (6) THE POREST: Alan Ayoldoum adapts Ostrovsky's serdanic; 1870 cornedy, with Michael Fessi's impoverished actor trying to impress his rich sunt (Frances de la Tour). Lyttetton (0171-452 3000).

IN LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ELARUCHS: Even McGregor in the title role of a sentimentalised revival of David Helikvell's play about art-student failure and lasciem.

Comedy (0171-389 1731).

through an American campus with the help of a migraine-inducing

CURRENT

Spanish love, Russian

always been the Ingmar Bergman of the dance world. And now here he is making a ballet whose antecedent is a Berg-man film. Brandstrup's The Return of Don Juan even feels like a Bergman movie: austere, dense and interior. Cineastes may find much to admire in Brandstrup's intensely filmic production for his Arc Dance Company: the rest of us can admire Irek Mukhamedov in the title role.

Mukhamedov has just been demoted to the status of guest artist with the Royal Ballet, acknowledgement of the fact that his days as a Prince are numbered. But this show proves his stage power remains undiminished, that he is as charismatic and forceful as ever.

Both ballet and film (The Devil's Evel are based in part on an old Danish radio play. The Return of Don Juan by Oluf Bang, which sees Juan condemned to Hell not because he has seduced so many women, but "because he felt so little while doing so". His punishment is a constant stream of sexually unfulfilled liaisons with beautiful women.

Brandstrup's addendum to the tale of the legendary Spanish nobleman catapults him into the 20th century for one last mission at the behest of the Devil: the seduction of the



last virtuous woman on earth. Don Juan lands in a Holly wood film set where he finds himself cast to play himself in a movie about his life. The chaste leading lady (the Devil's target) is immune to his considerable charms; and for the first time in his life, the wily seducer falls in love.

The twists in the tale allow Mukhamedov to assume several personas: the puffed-out philanderer, the rakish buffoon, the romantic hero, the handsome Hollywood star. He plays them all with conviction. especially the romantic hero. stripping away the pose and artifice of his reputation in a tenderly heartfelt scene with his sleep-drugged beloved.

Brandstrup's movement language is fluently lyrical, whirling arabesques cutting across the diagonals. He writes the mime straight into the dance. so the story is always on the move, while characters who lurk on the sidelines are given richly expressive cameos. Brandstrup's choreography flatters Mukhamedov's technique, granting him stature



Seduction in progress: Genevieve Byrne and Irek Mukhamedov in Kim Brandstrup's staging for Arc Dance Company

and grace, but it denies him a suit with a naughty tail, is a in pedalpushers who calls to passionate inner life. Which is smarmy Devil, orchestrating mind a blonde Audrey Hepwhy this dramatically lukewarm ballet would be unthinkable without the Russian's peronal emotional energy. graphic lines. Genevieve Byrne
Kenneth Tharp, in a dark is the Girl, a gamine creature sonal emotional energy.

the Don's fate like a Mafia godfather and dancing as if the Devil has all the best choreo-

burn. Byrne is a real find as a dancer, lovely of style and shyly feminine as the heroine.

The hallet features a commissioned score by the Danish

composer Kim Heiweg, densely atonal music of imaginative orchestral colouring and literal narration. David Roger's set is sumptuously simple.

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LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG) Roberto Benign's romantic Second World Wer lable statutes a disturbing cornedy into the Holocaust. Supremely well acted, but the como treatment of the struggle

Betrothal in a Monastery

Diadkova/Akimov/Gassiev/ Kirov Orchestra/Gergiev Philips 462 107-2 🛨 🖈

COMEDY was in short supply in the Soviet Union during the early 1940s. With the German Army knocking at the gates, probably only Prokofiev would have turned to Sheridan's farce The Duenna for inspiration. The knocking was loud enough for the premiere of Betrothal in a Monastery, or The Duenna as it is sometimes known, to be twice postponed and it was only neard when the war was over.

Since then performances have been infrequent. Prokofiev's demands were huge in terms of cast, chorus and dancers. The plot, basically a simple one of the girl who manages to marry for love and not money, is full of complex entanglements, notably in the lengthy second act. The rewards come in a very

perky score, with musical jokes in plenty, particularly in the orchestra. Valery Gergiev. champion of all operas Russian and rare, makes the most of these with his Kirov Orchestra. The best come in the brief final act, where a galumphing chorus of monks, clearly well into the hard stuff, switch into orthodox chant when visitors arrive. These include the young lovers, sweetly sung by Larissa Diadkova and Evgeny Akimov, and papa (Nicolai Gassiev), who makes amends by playing a tune on some handy musical glasses.

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BEETHOVEN'S string quartets are just about the hardest imaginable act to follow, and it was given to Mendelssohn to come to terms with his legacy in his chamber music. Undeterred, he wrote a Quartet in A minor at the age of 18 which was well-nigh Beethovenian in stature, and the Juilliard Quartet do it full justice here.

The way in which a little phrase from an earlier love song of Mendelssohn's is used to unify and concentrate this Op 13 Quartet is in itself a daring tribute to Beethoven. And the Juilliard pose and poise its sombre question with great

beauty before springing into an Allegro of high nervous tension and sweet song.

They find the subtlest of shadings and articulation for its slow movement and a perfectly judged pulse for its gentle Intermezzo with a midsummer night's dream of a scher-

20 at its heart. This great quartet is kept company by the Op 12 in E flat, a mellow, expansive and perhaps just slightly middleaged performance of a work the 20-year-old Mendelssohn wrote on his 1829 tour of England, Scotland and Wales.

HILARY FINCH

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raise the profile of the viola above joke status, though his unpredictability has not always done his reputation any favours. But he is on top form here in a fine programme of William Walton and Max Bruch. The former's concerto is one of the landmarks of the repertoire, and with the experienced : Waltonian André Previo on the rostrum, this

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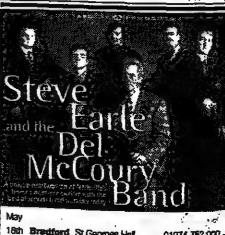
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The Goldman Sachs flotation is on again. This time, however it may look to jealous outsiders, the decision to float is not about turning the partners into multi-millionaires. Oh no, this time Goldman is floating as part of a carefully thought out strategic plan for the development of the group. That is what the double act of John Thornton and John Thain has been telling the troops as they have whistle stopped through Asia, the US and Europe. The message may even, for a few moments, have stopped the troops worrying over just how many shares they were

going to get. But not for long.

After the fiasco of last autumn's pulled flotation, the bank cannot afford to fail again. So now the message is that price is almost irrelevant: the important thing is to get the IPO over quick-ly and efficiently then get on with running the business. If Goldman tried telling its corporate clients that price was not impor-tant, they might be inclined to take their business elsewhere. But in this case it is largely true. With no more than 15 per cent of the company being sold and the inside shareholders forced to hold the stock for between three and five years, the partners can afford to price the issue at a level which will ensure it gets away swiftly. Their rewards will come

Get it right — never mind the price

were divided over the original float plans: a fly on the board-room wall would have witnessed scenes of naked greed which even some of the masters of the universe claimed to have found shocking.

Perhaps the experience really did cause a few investment bankers to wonder whether there was more to running a world beating bank than money. Anyhow, the result has been a change at the top of the organisation. Jon Corzine vacated the chief executive's chair and Hank Paulson moved into it. Together with Messrs Thornton and Thain, an established team, the trio now appear to be running the show. And they have been telling Goldman's near 2000 staff of their vision for the future: of a business which is strong on communication and encourages the careers of women and ethnic minorities.

But enough of that. Goldman is one of the world's three global investment banks, along with Merrill Lynch and Morgan Stanley. It intends to hang onto that position and will go on grabbing business worldwide. Forty Goldman has been through a bruising period. The partners per cent of its profits now come from Europe and Asia where, just five years ago, it was still los-



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

ing money. Its culture will not be changed by the flotation: the aim remains to win. Apple pie features a long way down the menu. The flotation provides a different way of rewarding staff: there will be shares for all, largely allotted on merit, which promises plenty of scope for excitement. And there will be paper with which to make acquisitions. That is not on the agenda now, of course, but that is what they all say.

A fresh plea for stunted giants

ew in the City will be be-mouning the loss to the stock market of Wainhomes. The company was floated in 1994 at 170p a share and now it is going private at 140p. This short and inglorious life as a public company bears no relation to Wainhomes's real business, which saw profits double in five vears. No wonder the directors have decided that they need the City as much as Goldman Sachs partners need starter homes.

The company's exit from the stock market gives perfectly timed emphasis to the conclusions of a newly republished report forecasting the potential de-mise of the smaller quoted com-panies sector. Not all these tidders will grow into Tomorrow's Giants, the romantic title of the report, but, the way the stock market is polarising at the moment, the danger is that many potentially significant companies will be deprived of the route to capital and, thereby, expansion.

The Treasury is aware of the

The Treasury is aware of the problem. Paul Myners spelt it out in his recent report and Geoffrey Robinson, when he was Paymaster General, established the inevitable committee to take a look, Tomorrow's Giants is a sequel to the work of that committee, penned by its deputy chair-man, Brian Basham, and Craig Pickering who, for the past five years was head of the Industry diision at the Treasury.

Mr Basham, best known as a corporate spin-doctor, tried his hand at building what might have been a giant of the future by launching a nursing home busi-ness. Rather than risk rejection by the stock market, he decided to sell to BUPA instead. But no matter: he would like others to have the chance to grow.

The report has a plethora of

suggestions, ranging from the fashionable one of educating children in the joys of investment to pushing more company informa-tion on to the Web. That alone would have been unlikely to have altered the fortunes of a future

What the report comes down to is a call for more tax incentives to encourage the private inves-tor. It lands on Gordon Brown's desk as he puts the finishing touches to the Budget and is likely to be pushed on to an ever-increasing pile of worthy and unread pleas. Yesterday, the pile was also added to by another paeon of praise for employee share ownership plans from the ever-active Denis MacShane, MP. The argument in both cases is that we should be encouraging more private investors. The Gov-ernment should not ignore them.

ABI pulls off a palace coup

uring Mary Francis to be the next director-general of the Association of British Insurers is quite a coup for chair-man Sandy Leitch. Yesterday this column said that leading trade associations should take an imaginative approach to filling the top jobs that have fallen vacant simultaneously. Poaching from the Queen is certainly more adventurous than hiring someone from another industry organisa-tion, as the ABI had done in the past, or another McKinsevite, the CBI's usual recruiting trick. A former Treasury civil servant, Ms Francis has been at Buckingham Palace for the past three years. She may find that modernising the monarchy is a breeze compared with the problems of

putting a positive case for the fi-nancial services industry. While the ABI would like to move on from pensions mis-selling, even the past week has seen the chairman of the Financial Services Authority warning that Isas will be mis-sold and the insurance ombudsman laying into mortgage protection policies.

Under such attacks, the industry tends to stifle its fears over how the plans for new savings products and complicated pension schemes are supposed to work. Ms Francis, with her knowledge of royal protocol. may prove to have been an inspired choice in securing enlightenment. A curtsey might secure that most sought-after privilege for those who want to learn what the Treasury is really thinking: an audience with Ed Balls.

Dr Brown's remedy

THE terminology surrounding the decisions of the Monetary Policy Committee has abandoned ornithology in favour of pharmacology. Hawks and doves have flown. Now Eddie George dishes out aspirins and the British Chambers of Commerce decries yesterday's decision to leave interest rates unchanged as "a bitter pill". Yet, with the Budget just days away, the MPC needed to pause from its rate cutting. After all, Gordon Brown may be planning to hand out a few anti-depressants to industry.

GKN profits up by 14% despite gloom on cars

BY ADAM JONES

GKN shares rose more than 7 per cent yesterday after an unexpectedly strong performance at its pallet rental business. Chep. The surge in the stock price came despite a downbeat forecast for car production in Europe.

GKN reported 1998 profits of £462 million before goodwill amortisation and exceptionals, a 14 per cent rise on 1997. Analysts had expected between £436 million and £460 million.

GKN said Chep, a joint venture that provides and manages crates for supermarket chains and others, enjoyed double-digit growth in all its operations. One big ble produce pallets that can be moved straight out into a

supermarket display. Group-wide sales of the company which manufactures propellor shafts and other components for cars, sells powder

By Dominic Walsh

THISTLE HOTELS, London's

biggest hotel group, emerged from a year of turmoil to report

record profits before tax and ex-

ceptionals of £86.6 million - a

9.2 per cent increase over 1997.

by 5.6 per cent to £49.52, driv-

en by a 6.1 per cent rise in average room rates. Bedroom occu-

pancy saw a slight dip to 71.9

per cent from 72.3 per cent. Including exceptional items, pre-tax profits almost halved to £46.8 million, with adjusted

carnings per share reaching 11.9p (12.1p). This included a

£27.5 million loss on the dispos-

On a like-for-like basis revenue per available room rose

metals for a variety of uses, as well as making Westland heli-copters, came in at £3.71 billion, up from £3.38 billion. Earnings per share were up from 39.2p to 80.2p, reflecting a £248 million one-off gain following a successful appeal against a court decision in the US last year.

GKN said it could afford to spend up to £1 billion on aqui-sitions but C.K. Chow, chief executive, played down the need to buy competitors in the automotive or support services

It is still in talks to form an alliance between Westland and Agusta, the Italian helicopter company. GKN has vehicle business with Alvis. It is unlikely that Vickers will inject its struggling tank-making arm into this pairing.

Mr Chow said GKN expects the US car market to be flat this year, although the group's

Thistle unveils

record profits

market share should rise. Recent problems in Brazil had affected automotive profits but Mr Chow emphasised that emerging markets account for

just over 3 per cent of sales.

GKN expects European car production to fall by about 3 per cent in 1999. The European car industry is responsible for about £1.4 billion of GKN sales. Danny Bevan, an analyst at Crédit Lyonnais, was unfazed: "They look as if they are going to manage their way

through the European down-turn reasonably effectively." Demand for GKN's agricultural profits in Europe is also expected to fall this year, following an earlier slump in

A dividend of 10.55p per share has been declared, making 16.3p (14.75p) for the year. The shares closed at 910p, close to their all-time high of 925p.

Cookson

to spend

£400m

BY PAUL DURMAN

COOKSON, the industrial ma-

terials group, has £400 million

to spend on acquisitions to bol-

ster its new focus on electron-

ics, ceramics and engineering. Steve Howard, chief execu-

tive, said Cookson was consid-

ering "a couple of deals worth £200 million or more" as well

as the more familiar bolt-on

Mr Howard said the company was making progress with its recently announced plans to close 20 manufacturing plants and rationalise another 10,

which will cause 700 job losses.

The first £50 million of costs

from this programme was the

Tempus, page 30

Heavy going for Ladbroke's bookies

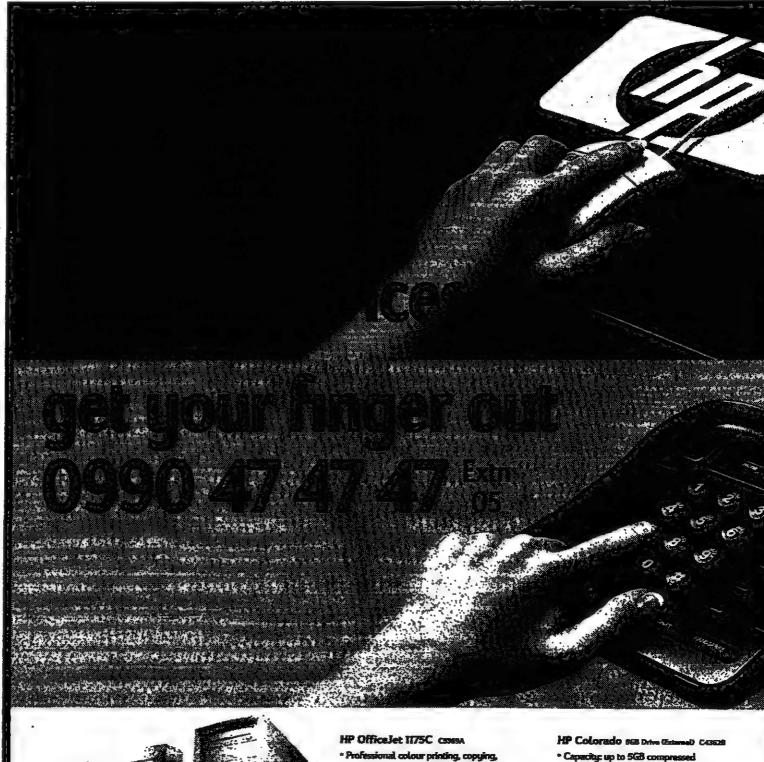
[ADBROKE has experienced difficult trading conditions in its UK betting shop chain as it puts the final touches to its £1.5 billion takeover of Stakis, the rival hotel and gaming group (Domin-

The company yesterday admitted that although trading in its two divisions had been "satisfactory" in the

first two months of the year, trading margins in its Ladbrokes bookies' shops had been "lower than planned" In common with rivals such as William Hill, Ladbrokes has suffered from effects of poor weather on race meetings and some predictable foot-ball results, enabling punters to rake in higher winnings than normal. A

ate. That's the nature of the business." Ladbroke was unveiling a 22 per cent rise in 1998 profits, before tax and exceptionals, to £276.9 million. Earnings per share rose from 14.82p to 17.90p. A 4.64p final dividend makes 7.58p, up 10 per cent. The Hilton Inter-national hotels division lifted profits ting and gaming up 55 per cent, to £172.4 million — or 23 per cent excluding the effect of the recently sold Coral. There was a £9.8 million writedown of launch costs of Vernons Easy Play. football-based National Lottery

game with 350,000 players a week, against forecasts of up to three million.



al of 34 of its regional hotels, re-alising £74.5 million, and £19 Ian Burke, chief executive, said that trading in the first main reason operating profits fell last year from £188.3 milmillion from new accounting two months of the year had delion to £122.9 million. Annual rules on property valuations. savings of £14 million are ex-pected from next year. There were also one-off costs livered "modest like-for-like revenue growth". A final dividend of 3.0p of £1.4 million in advisers' fees Underlying pre-tax profits were 15 per cent lower at £151 milrelating to the abortive sale of makes a total of 4.5p, up 7.1 per the company to Nomura last cent. Investors will also share a bon. A final dividend of 5.1p insummer. Thistle's shares, which had touched 250p in £92.4 million special dividend creases the total for the year by 2 June, went into a tailspin after - the second tranche of the £185 per cent to 9.4p a share. Cookthe deal's collapse, sinking to son's shares slipped 51/2p to 149p. million promised in September.

Dawson chief fears US backlash on cashmere

Burke: "revenue growth"

1034:p last December. Yester-

day, they shed 3%p to 136%p.

By Sarah Cunningham, retail correspondent

SCOTTISH cashmere companies could be seriously damaged by the continuing uncertainty over whether the United States is to impose sanctions in its "banana war" with the European Union, a leading manufacturer said yesterday.

Peter Forrest, chief executive of Dawson International. the company behind the Pringle and Ballantyne brands. said: "The bad thing is that

the indecision carries on and

could delay some quite seri-

ous business coming Scot-

land's way." Small, independent companies will probably be worst hit, he said.

nana regime actually favours EU-based marketing companies and deprives its own big firms, such as Chiquita and Dole Foods, of revenues. It has drawn up a list of EU goods, including Scottish cashmere sweaters, that could be

America says the EU's bait intends to focus entirely on cashmere and to sell its other businesses after a year in which

affected by 100 per cent tariffs. Dawson said it will be largely protected from sanctions because it has a China-based business, which mainly supplies the US with cashmere and which would not be affected. Dawson said yesterday that

it fell £30.6 million into the red. Dawson made a pre-tax profit in the previous year of £10.2 million. It is not paying any dividend for the year to January 2 (2.75p in the previous year). There were exceptional charges of £19.6 million relating to restructuring.



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BOOKS

Days without nights

THE 24 HOUR SOCIETY By Leon Kreitzman Profile Books, £16.99 ISBN 1 86197 104 4

"INCESSANCE is the way of the world," says Leon Kreitzman, linking cars, consumerism and communication tech-nologies with "a seamless total hours society". There's no stopping us - we have been conditioned to want it all and to want it now and to throw it away after use. Irresistible eco-nomic and workplace trends already impose radical changes on our relationship with time. Twenty-four-hour cities, "hubs in a global network", will enable the reorganisation of urban living in the new millennium. This excitingly pro-phetic, thoughtful book, based on research for BT and First Direct, will give traditionalists a few wakeful nights.

Ed 'n' Bert

BATTLE ROYAL By Kirsty McLeod Constable, £20 ISBN 0 09 479320 4

WINDSOR-WATCHERS WIII find few new facts in this story of the fall of Edward VIII and the rise of George VI, brother against brother, both deeply scarred by mother and majesty. But the book usefully boils down a mass of material, and its emphasis on family patterns reinforcing themselves in every generation from Victoria to Elizabeth II is entertaining. The implications for the present generations of Mountbatten-Windsor are irresistible. McLeod's irrepressible waspishness often damns with a loaded, well-placed word: Wallis Simpson doesn't get out of here alive, and the treatment meted out to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is plainly restrained only by the fact that she is still living.

Far out

THE LITTLE BOOK OF SCIENCE By John Gribbin Penguin, £2.99 ISBN 0 14 028005 7

WHAT is life? Life is "a self-organising complex phenomenon that occurs (sometimes) in places where energy is flowing from a hotter object to a cooler object". I can live with that. Thank you. Kinda puts me in my place in the Universe. And what is the Universe? It could be a grainy mass of wormholes that "form a tangled mess like cosmic spaghetti. which forms the structure of what looks to us a smooth and continuous time and space." Uh - OK - the Universe is scaly. In 100 nano-pages, you can learn cool stuff about weird science from Atom to Zweig (we thank you for the quark. sir): are you ready for leaping genes and nanobots?

IAIN FINLAYSON | Martin Luther King Jr. From

at 7pm.

THE TIMES & DILLONS FORUM

in association with The Word

Times readers are invited to a rare evening

with John le Carré, one of Britain's best-

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acclaimed author will talk about his life and

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& Single. If you would like to ask John le

johnlecarre@the-times.co.uk. For more

details visit The Times/le carré website at

The event, which forms part of The Word

Kingsway, London WC1. Tickets cost £9

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literary festival, will be held at the LSE

Peacock theatre, Portugal Street, off

Peter Stothard, the internationally

Carré a question, please e-mail

www.the-times.co.uk/lecarre.html.

You, too, can be Dickens's companion

Champion of the poor and scourge of politicians, the

novelist is well-served by collection and compendium

harles Dickens has been very fortunate in the late 20th century. Where Shakespeare seems to be in the hands of warring tribes of scholars, his work and reputation are being enhanced and consolidated by teams of vigorous and enthusiastic editors. His letters are progressing through the "Pilgrim" edition, and his journalism is being excellently edited by Michael Slater. There is now also a Companion to complement the Ox-ford Illustrated edition of his novels. There may be no public monuments to the greatest of all 19th-century English novelists, but these volumes are a more fitting memorial.

The third volume of Dickens's journalism consists of papers from Household Words, the weekly peri-

Here are all the themes familiar

from the novels he was composing

in the period, Hard Times and Lit-

surely, as forlorn and desolate as Mother Earth can have supported odical which he edited for eight years and which became in his hands an extension of his fiction.

tle Dorrit among them - the contempt for the entire political administration of the country, his sympathy for the hard-pressed victims of the mill and the manufactory, his compassion for the poor, and his outrage at the conditions in which they were compelled to live. Who could forget the image of the emaciated child, "with burning cheeks and great gaunt eager eyes" who had appeared in the doorway of a "ragged school", and "held the bottle of physic in his claw of a hand, and stood, apparently unconscious of it, staggering, and staring with his bright glazed eyes; a creature,

on her breast that night". Not many writers could get away with the conventional allusion to "Mother Earth" but the angry clarity of Dickens's vision transcends sentimentality. That anger emerges all the more clearly in these years when the bungling of the Crimean

War began to enrage him at precisely the time he became more and more estranged from conventional English society in all its forms. So in Household Words, at a time of cholera in 1854, he hit out against those who refuse "to amend the dwellings of the poor" as "guilty, be-fore GOD, of wholesale murder". Local incidents are lent a dramat-

ic intensity and power by Dickens's incomparably subtle manner, but he was also an indefatigable wan-derer and observer. He questioned the watchman on Waterloo Bridge about the number of suicides there; he interviewed police officers, the keepers of workhouses, the teachers in the "ragged schools". What emerges from this wonderful collection is his energy and his purposefulness; he was interested in everything, and bored by nothing. The strikers of Preston animated him but then so did the plight of the lions at London Zoo, and the fatuities of temperance organisations.



Of all journalists he conveyed the most intimate tone. The journal was "Conducted by Charles Dickens", according to its masthead, by which he meant that he conducted his audience as well as his fellowcontributors. He often envisioned himself sitting by their firesides and conversing with them, and in the periodical itself there are essays

upon his most intimate memories and private preoccupations. Here are some of the finest essays upon his childhood - "Thus I wandered about the City, like a child in a dream," he wrote in Gone Astray, . . . inspired by a mighty faith in the marvellousness of everything." He kept that faith all his life, which

is why even his most glancing ob-

servations possess a vivacity that has never faded. In the same essay he concludes: "They used to say I was an odd child, and I suppose I was. I am an odd man perhaps." We cannot have one part of Dickens without all the rest, and this volume displays him entire - with his anger and playfulness, his self-confidence and his pity, his capacious memory and his genius for vivid contemporary observations, his ex-

travagant humour and his brood-

ing melancholy.

The Oxford Reader's Companion to Dickens provides a completely different, yet still complete, picture of the novelist. Here is the world of Dickens in brief but readily identifiable form. Some of the entries are succinct essays of their own, on matters critical and theoretical, analytical and historical. It is a fact, perhaps not known to all of the novelist's biographers, that at the time of his death his cellar at Gad's Hill contained, among innumera-ble cases of claret and sherry, more than 300 bottles of French brandy — all the more curious since Dickens himself was absternious almost to a fault. And yet in this contrast between the apparently remperate man and the underground cellar awash with drink, we may have an inkling of Dickens's imaginative life. That is the essential strength of the Companion: all the facts and details live because they provide a composite portrait of writer and the age. It will prove invaluable to scholars, readers and admirers of Dickens into the next century and beyond. By that time, will Dickens have become immortal?

AND OTHER PAPERS Dickens's Journalism 1851-59 Edited by Michael Slater Dent, £30; ISBN 0 460 87726 7

THE OXFORD READER'S COMPANION TO DICKENS Edited by Paul Schlick OUP, £40; ISBN 0 19 866213 0

Preach a gospel of peace

Charles Johnson hails the legacy

of Martin Luther King

ike America's Founding Fathers and the figures on Mt Rushmore, Martin Luther King Jr suffers from the curse of canonisation. Few people can tell you anything about him - the specific components of his "dream", for example, his intellectual beginnings, or pivotal moments in his 12-year public ministry of promoting the social gospel. Three decades after his death. one of America's greatest morous man at the white-hot cen-

zi priliosophers : tre of the movements for reform — has been airbrushed. sanitised and, as one black man recently put it to me: "Rehabilitated for white people. It's like we revere him, you know, so we don't have to think about him any more," For those who do wish to think about this remarkable

man and his rich legacy, the historian Clayborne Carson, director of the King Papers Project for the past 20 years. provides two important works with which we can begin. The first is The Autobiography of Martin Luther King Jr., a text curiously named insofar as King did not live long enough to shape his life's story in this genre. But he did leave behind more than 200,000 pages of documents that Carson knows intimately as the editor of the first three definitive, annotated volumes of The Papers of

KING JR

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

OF MARTIN LUTHER

Ed. Clayborne Carson Little, Brown, £18.99 ISBN 0 316 848220 KNOCK AT MIDNIGHT Inspiration from the Great Sermons of Martin Luther King Jr **Ed. Clayborne Carson** and

> **Peter Holloran** Little, Brown, £14.99 ISBN 0 316 848247

these papers, King's three major books (Stride Toward Freedom, Why We Can't Walt and Where Do We Go From Here?), published essays, articles, speeches and sermons Carson artfully weaves a "religious and political" narrative using King's own words with no attempt to "correct historical inaccuracies in King's account", or mythologise away the flaws that humanise him.

Carson's book transports us back in time to King's tempestuous, mid-century campaigns for social justice. Readers will feel gripped when revisiting. for example, the year-long war of nerves that was the Montgomery bus boycott, and following the 26-year-old King, a newly minted PhD conversant with Hegel, the Personalist theologians and most of Western intellectual history, through the first challenges that made

MORE and more writers are

being kidnapped by their edi-

tors. Publishing an author's

diaries or letters should be an

act of love, but becomes a hei-

nous crime when the author is

tortured into saying for public

consumption something he or

she does not believe. Christina G. Rossetti's reli-

gious beliefs, the editor of her

letters tells us, "liberated her.

ideology . . . and challenges

both the patriarchal values

that governed Victorian

England and their extension

in industrial capitalism."

him an heir to Gandhi's nonviolence – racial challenges he met by always balancing activism with morality. "I would seek to rouse the group to action," he said of the Montgomery boycotters. "But I would balance this with a strong affirmation of the Christian doctrine of love." One of the delights of this "autobiography" came in hith-erto unpublished documents,

like King's love letters to Coretta Scott. One, dated July 18, 1952, begins, "Darling, I miss you so much. In fact, too much for my own good," then after a paragraph of heartfelt longing for his fiancée, King launches into a critique of Bellamy's Looking Backward, and concludes: "I imagine you already know that I am much more socialistic in my economic theory than capitalist. And yet I am not so opposed to capitalism that I have failed to see its relative merits."

Carson's second contribution is A Knock at Midnight, a

Martin Luther King greets supporters on the Mall in Washington, August 28, 1963, moments before delivering his famous "I have a dream" speech collection of sermons he edited with Peter Holloran. Each is introduced by a prominent theologian, among them the Rev Billy Graham and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. To understand King, Carson and Holloran argue, we must remember his remark that "I am fundamentally a clergyman, a Baptist preacher". His most powerful sermons here, such as Loving Your Enemies and The Drum Major Instinct, recontextualise him within the Judeo-Christian tradition. One, Unfulfilled Dreams, is astonishingly self-revealing when he confesses: "I'm a sin-ner like all God's children. But

I want to be a good man."
We owe a debt to Carson for delivering King to us whole. With these two works, the magnificent biography by Stephen Oates entitled Let the Trumpet Sound, and the works of Taylor Branch, we are sumptuously prepared for carrying the legacy of Martin Luther King Ir into the 21st century.

BIBLIOMANE

allowing her radically to exploit her gender along with widespread middle-class beate distortion. In reply to a feminist who wrote asking her to liefs about women and their support votes for women, social roles ... " And her fem-Christina Rossetti wrote, in ininity "enabled her to launch the late 1870s: "Does it not apa quietly comprehensive at-tack on the entire network of pear as if the Bible was based upon an understood unalterable distinction between men patriarchal values . . . Rossetti was able to accomplish this and women, their position, dugoal by positioning berself as ties, privileges? Not arrogata devout adherent of High ing to myself but most earnest-Anglican religious doctrine ly desiring to attain to the charand, ostensibly, as an advoacter of a humble orthodox cate of the more widespread Xtian, so it does appear to me Victorian ideology of 'women's sphere.' By embracing religious values with such radical fervour. however, Rossetti's work undercuts the domestic

... The fact of the Priesthood being exclusively man's, leaves me in no doubt that the highest functions are not in this world open to both sexes . . . " And again: "Many who have thought more and done much more than myself share your views - and yet they are not mine."

The editor may as well send A true Christian, which she a couple of fingers in the post was, does not "position herself to the Christina Rossetti Socias a devout adherent", and ety. The paragraph above is Rossetti did not feel "liberated" not only not true, but a deliberby her religion, but con-

strained. Nor did she "exploit her gender", or pervert her reli-gious belief for "radical" political ends. She did not have ends antecedent to her beliefs: truth does not arise out of purpose. She rejected proto-feminism not "ostensibly" but from deep conviction, and gave her reason for believing in a sphere that was specifically women's. You may not like it. Antony H. Harrison, but if you do not you should not volunteer to edit her letters. "It is no light offence to traduce the dead," as she once wrote.

The University Press of Virginia edition designed by Laury A. Egan, is extremely handsome, in the style of Clarendon Press books of the 1950s and 1960s. It is therefore the sadder that fewer such editions are being undertaken by Oxford University Press formerly their natural home because (I hope and believe) its traditions of editorial rigour would still prevent this kind of hijacking.

GEORGE ELIOTS Journals. too, would have taken a better form at Oxford rather than they have at Cambridge, where Margaret Harris and Judith Johnson have been allowed to interpolate modish literary criticism between the rather random sections.

JIM McCue

Call it a vowel movement

COREN

OULIPO COMPENDIUM

there is nothing in art more dated than the avant-garde. Dadaism the Nouveau Roman make Chrétien de Troyes or the Bayeux Tapestry look like the dernier cri in Post-Modern self-expression. But while most of the polo-necked perpetrators of the avant-garde have much to answer for, no group is more blameworthy in the process by which French thought became an object of

ridicule than the Ouling. The Oulipo were born out of the ashes of the Collège de Pataphysique, a congregation of literary fruitcakes who sought to perpetuate the mem-ory of Alfred Ubu Roi Jarry. Deriving their name from a contraction of "Ouvroir de Littérature Potentielle", they endeavoured to challenge the nihilistic approach to authorship of Roland Barthes and his Structuralist hoodlums. and looked to create literature by imposing perverse con-straints on their writing. From 1960 the Oulipians

wrote poetry and prose that was sometimes palindromic, frequently anagramatic, often lipogramatic. They wrote books using only the keys on the left-hand side of the typewriter. They wrote poems in which each word has one letter fewer than the previous.

Edited by Harry Mathews and **Alastair Brotchie** Atlas Press, £16.99 ISBN 0 947757 96 1

up as pumpkins, are dog soup, and believed they were the Duke of Wellington's horse. The illustrious Oulipian François Le Lionnais sought the minimum limits of poetry by writing poems of only one word, such as the epic Fennel, which I reproduce here in full: "fennel". Later in his career he moved on to exploring poems of only one letter, though space here does not allow me to quote from his harrowing, but ultimately uplifting, T.

Out of lunacy, however, gen-ius occasionally springs. Ray-mond Queneau, one of



Oulipo author Georges Perec with editor Harry Mathews

line two

Oulipo's founding fathers, inaugurated the movement with his 100,000,000,000,000 Poems. This comprises ten sonnets, all written with the same rhyme scheme. Any single line can be interchanged with its corresponding line in another

Fer heroi

jurih Dunais

Tra y TO WOUL

are around 100 million million poems available, which would take someone reading 24 hours a day 190,258,751 years to finish. Less if she were a girl, I suppose, as they always in 1967, the remarkable Georges Perec was admitted to the group and greatness beckoned. To read his La Disparition - a 300-page novel written without using the let-ter "e" - may be the literary equivalent of trying not to pee

for a week, but the result is a sparkling detective story. If you like that, you'll love Les Revenentes, a shorter effort in which he used up all thee's he had neglected, and employed no other vowels. Readers of his greatest work, La Vie Mode d'Emploi, may not be aware that it is an attempt to solve the mathematical enig-ma of the Knight's Tour Problem in the context of a 10x10 Graeco-Latin bi-square. They will notice only that they cannot put it down, and may efterwards reflect that it is as close to an example of the perfect novel as this half of the 20th century can offer. The Oulipo Compendium is

sonnet (the lines are perforat-

ed to allow for their being torn

out and manipulated in the

manner of children's books

which encourage body parts to

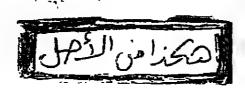
be combined). In theory, there

read faster than boys.

a Pandora's box, and when you tip out all the rubbish there is hope. I leave you a little richer in your hearts if I leave you with this pair of poems, from the limerick section. There was a young man.

from Peru Whose limericks stopped at

There was a young man



BOOKS

Feminist heroine loses the plot

Sarah Dunant wonders to what Germaine is germane

ike many of my generation. The Female Eunuch was a seminal book for me. I was 23. travelling solo in Thailand, couldn't afford a bunk on the train from Bangkok to Chang-ma so I sat up all night in third class consuming Greer's passionate call to sexual revolution. At dawn I got off the

tran transformed.

If the years following, I, along with other feminists, have watched Greer grow older with a mixture of awe and exasperation. While that bloopy-minded fabulous intelligence has continued un-bowed, her feuds with other women and her idiosyncratic. sometimes downright contradictory, views, have increasing-ly mide her as much an embarrasment as a support. Yet hers has been a voice we listened to even when we opposed it, even when it didn't

seem o make much sense. Which brings us to The Whole Woman. "The follow up she said she would never write" is a catalogue of horrors. Far from being liberated. Greer now says, women have only been manipulated further into submisssion. The pursuit of equality at work has resulted in harassment and intimidation, the tyranny of beauty has reduced us to imageslaves, the devaluing of motherhood has led to poverty and exploitation. Women are still being screwed by the system - I use the word screw advisedly. Greer is obsessed by the notion of women being penetrated, a theme which runs through the book. "In the last third of the 20th century more wonten were penetrated deeper and more often than any preceding era. What the penis could not accomplish was done for it by the outsized dil-

and the cunnula." The medical establishment's use/abuse of women is, of course, one of Green's hobby horses. Even abortion, in this book, comes under the banner

do and the fist, the speculum

THE WHOLE WOMAN By Germaine Greer Doubleday, £16.99 ISBN 0 385 60015 1



of male conspiracy. (In a novel piece of historical argument she explains the liberalisation of abortion laws in America as the medical establishment's desire to make a buck out of new operative procedures.)

What makes such assertions harder to take is as much her style as her content. Germaine has not got where she has today by watching her mouth. But there is a powerful difference between what you say as a soundbite on TV and an argument in a book of essays. Her hyperbolic language and wild generalisations undermine her credibility. In a chap-ter on sex we learn that: "In some British circles women are asked to perform fellatio demand." What circles. Germaine? Who are these men and women? Have you talked to them? And, God forbid, did any of the women mention that they might have consented to or even got some pleasure from it?

of style is a more serious question. Does Germaine really know what she's talking about? Some of these essays read like collections of press clippings and statistics with the merest thread of intellectual argument holding them together. Sometimes the inconsistencies between them are gobsmacking. While Western women should be refusing to have intercourse because it

Underneath these excesses

has no relationship to sexual pleasure, women in countries where clitoral surgery is common are OK, in Greer's eyes, because the operations are performed by other women and both men and women acknowledge that their culture

prizes a tight vagina! In the past Greer's most notable polemics have been rooted in personal experience. When she wrote The Female Eunuch she was a sexually active young woman living on a cusp moment of history. In Ser and Destiny there was a link between her own childlessness and radical arguments about contraception and motherhood. When she wrote The Change, her own journey through menopause informed her advice to other women.

Here she has little or no personal experience to temper her more outrageous pronouncements. How can she lecture young women on what she sees as their exploited sexuality when she has by her own admission given up on sex? How can she describe male-female relationships as largely abusive when she has stopped trying to have her own? Isolation leaves her in danger of not being able to read her own culture. She studies teen magazines and diagnoses gender apocalypse, not allowing for even a modicum of increased sophistication from a younger generation in decoding the toxicity of its own popular culture. It seems she can't remember the ingenuity and rebellion of youth. If Greer could resist becoming Doris Day there just a chance that my year-old won't automatical-

become Courtney Love. Finally, it's her pessimism that's so hard to take. Though she evokes "feminism" as a ral-lying cry to a better future, her exhortations lack passion. In the end it doesn't matter what we do because we're doomed. For her the corrupted West has run out of steam; for the future look to the East. "Female power will rush upon us in the

PETER

STOTHARD

THE EPIC OF

GILGAMESH

Trans. Andrew George

ISBN 0 713 99196 8

ment ought to bring Gil-

gamesh and his quest to many

more British readers. It is easi-

er to read as a work of art and

easier to use as a tool for sort-

ing out all the epic's almost mi-

Some of the texts that are col-

lected here in English for the

first time can be dated for ex-

ample, to the Babylon of the

18th century BC, about 1,000

years after the historical Gil-

gamesh had failed to avoid his

death. At that time, as in the

Britain of 18th century AD, a

well-educated clerk had to be

fluent in a language which, for

all day-to-day purposes, was

raculous linguistic history.



About face: the author of The Female Eunuch applies a double standard to developed and Third World cultures

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

persons of women who have nothing to lose, having lost everything already." According to Greer it might come from China or fundamentalist Islam. or Thailand — where Aids and prostitution are destroying a generation. Sounds like a dose of romantic Marxism to me. Still, maybe I'll give a copy to my daughter to take to Thailand. I just think I'll give her something else to read on the

IN metro THIS SATURDAY

The write stuff: everyone is supposed to have a novel in them. The question is how to get it out. Lottie Moggach takes up her pen and goes in search of criticism and catharsis on an Arvon creative writing course. --- but are readers any the wiser? Plus Rick Ridgeway walks from Kilimanjaro to the Indian Ocean

JOLLY GOOD SHOW, KEEP

A. N. WILSON brings out : new book. God's Funeral, in June, about the anguish felt by many men and women in the 19th century, as they read Lyell's Principles of Geology and Darwin's Origin of Spccies, and found their Christian faith fading. Which publisher brought out Lyelf's and Darwin's books? John Murray. And Wilson is published by! John Murray.

THE magazine Living Marxism is organising a conference on Dumbing Down, Wising Up?" at the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith this weekend and The Times Literary Supplement is taking part. But what are the Marxists doing organising this! Didn't the Communists control the greatest dumbing-down operation the world has ever known? (Tickets 0181-237 1111)

TONY HANANIA'S forthcoming novel. Unreal City (Bloomsbury), which deals with the freedom of expression of Arab writers in the West. has provoked controversy in Al-Hayat, the international Arabic newspaper. "The book reiterates the central blasphemy of The Satanic Verses." says Hanania - in one scene. prostitutes bear the names of the prophet Muhammad's wives. It is rumoured that London's The Word literary festival, where Hanania will read this month, is reviewing its security arrangements.

19th-century Paris, has made a return among London litterateurs. Your diarist. entertained by readings from Rimbaud, reeled from the absinthe cocktails served by Tam Dean Burn and his Green Fairies" at T2 on Clerkenwell Road on Tuesday. More gatherings are planned for the first Tuesday of the next three months - on football, female erotica and alternative travel. BYO. 0171-689 0322 for details.

THE STATES

ABSINTHE — tipple of

drop-outs and artists in

Death-defying adventures by the Saddams of old Iraq

hen the Epic of Gil-gamesh began its life 5,000 years ago. he sands now ruled by Saddam Hussein were the birthplace of all human civilisation. Gilgamesh was king of Uruk. in what is now southern Iraq. when there was almost as much Middle Eastern war as there is today. But the ancient fragi rulers, as well as raping. torruring, enslaving and huilding monuments to themselves. also found time to wimess the beginning of literature, man's first steps at characterisation and the creation of a story which still has power to amaze tiday. Which is possibly why the brutal, mood-swinging, mildly psychotic reputation of Nng Gilgamesh still stands in higher esteem than that of his rather similar 20th-century SUCCESSOR.

The world's first written story begins with the gods creating a wildman. Enkidu, to diven King Gilgamesh from his hapit of demanding first sexual congress with the local brides: even in the 3rd millenium BC, it seems, the droit de scioneur was judged as unsocial hehaviour.

This Enkidu, an "offspring of sience", gets his own sexual education from a rural prostitute "For six days and seven nights Enkidu was erect", we are old, before he is ready to fightGilgamesh. Enkidu fails to conquer the King but, instead of squaring up for Round Two, the pair become firm buddies, joining forces for a series of adventures.

During one of these scrapes Enkidu dies, raising acute fears in Gilgamesh about his own mornality. There is only one known immortal on earth. the survivor of the great flood with which the gods had deluged early humanity. But when Gilgamesh reaches him. he finds that his own death is inevitable. He is offered the key to ternal youth, but loses it and has to be content with



Akkadian art. ca. 2200 BC. the period of Gilgamesh's epic

mere permanent earthly me morials, extravagant buildings and military defenses. The various elements of this

story have had enormous influence - from their impact upon the characterisation of the Homeric heroes to their inspiration for mortality-obsessed modern writers, such as Rilke The fierce pride of Gilgamesh. his descent from a goddess mother and mortal father, his grief at the loss of a close male friend and his near victory over death all are harbingers of Achilles in the Iliad. Gilgamesh's sharp shifts of emotion create a human character. arguably the first in literature. even through the stilled style of its composition. The importance of the epic is

not only literary. The discovery that there was a flood myth earlier than that of the Old Testament Noah caused a religious sensation last century. For classical scholars the realisation that Greece was not the origin of every artistic virtue was a lesson that still needs to be hetter learnt. But the original text itself has not found us many modern readers as it deserves. Until the publication of this new Penguin Classic, the most conven-ient English text was its Penguin predecessor, a soggy lump of 1050s prose. Andrew George's bright verse replace-

dead. Gilgamesh's Sumerian was by then ancient Sumerian and played the part of Latin in the age of Gibbon.

Between the time of the living Gilgamesh and the final creation of his epic character. the local language of labourers and scribes had changed to a semitic tongue. Akkadian. While armies of outdoor slaves laboured by the Euphrates on immortalising ziggu-rats, the intellectually ambitions had to copy out thousand year old texts, carving wedgeshaped letters on clay tablets under the gaze of indoor slavedrivers who would whack them for the smallest error.

At least the ancient Greeks. who between the ages of Agam-emnon and Homer found a better writing script, kept a single identifiable language: the Mesopotamians did the opposite, keeping their old Sumeri-an cuneiform script but abandoning the old words. The Gilgamesh stories have also survived in Hittite, which modern scholars can understand fairly well and Hurrian, barely understood at all. George has formed an English text from the best of the tablets, differentiating his complex sources but allowing the general reader a clear run at one of the first enduring stories ever told.

Thanks to the industry of ancient scribes and modern archaeologists, new tablets are being discovered all the time. The greatest shortage is of scholars equipped to read them. In most fields of modern literary scholarship, there are too many PhD students chasing too lew subjects. This is a field, centred on the very ortgins of literature, where the opposite is the case. Perhaps this book will inspire the future students who will fill the gaps. take away the italies, open up the square brackets and provide a text as solid as that of all the later works which Iraq's second-best-known tyrant influenced so much.

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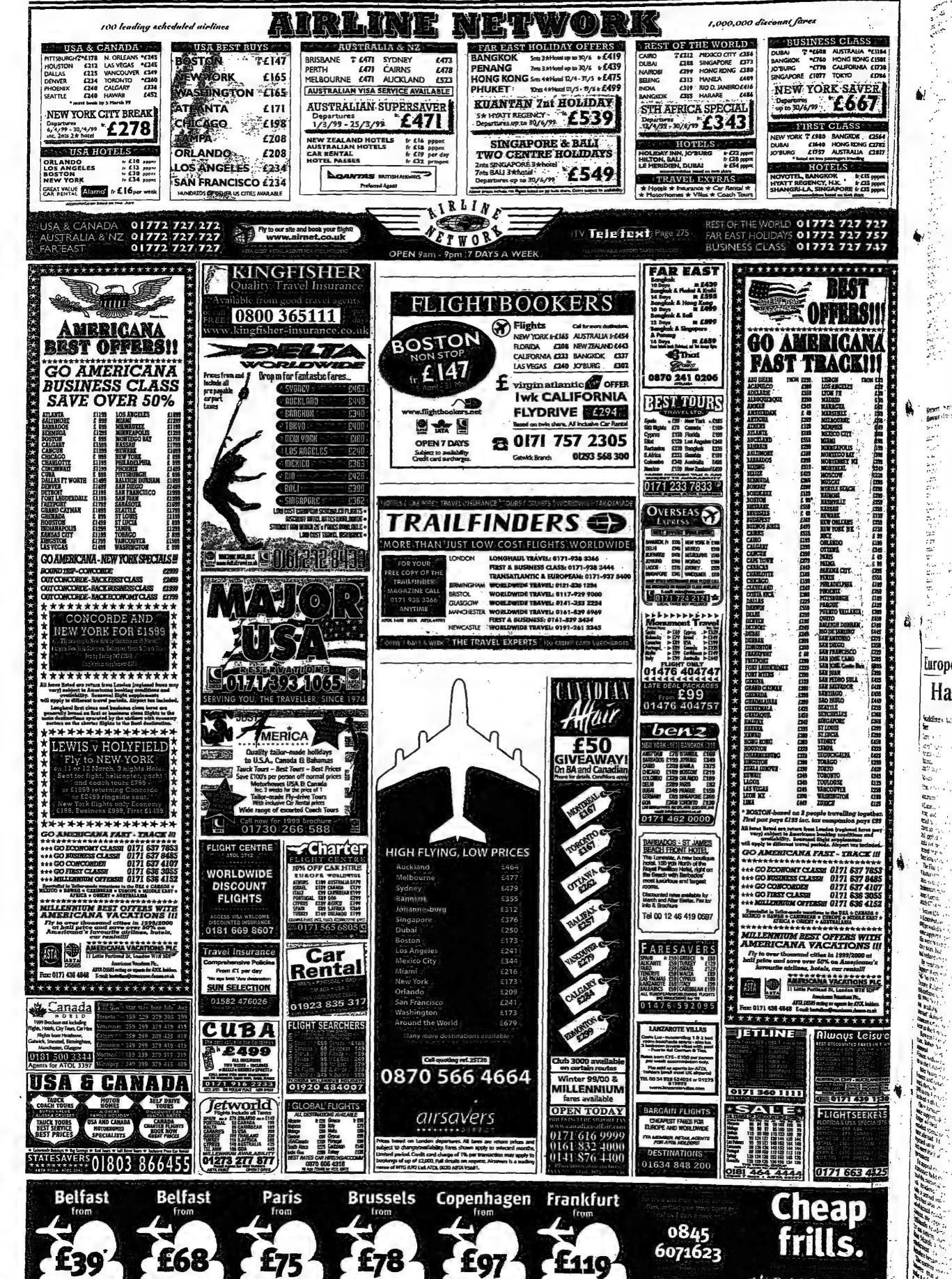
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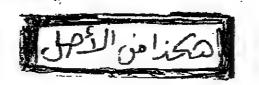
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Lack of reasons can be ground of appeal

Flannery and Another v Halifax Estate Agencies Ltd, trading as Colleys Professional

Before Lord Justice Henry, Lord Justice Laws and Mr Justice Hid-

(Judgment February 18) Failure by a judge at first instance to give reasons for a conclusion es-sential to his decision could constitute a good ground of appeal in circumstances where, on hearing ex-pert evidence from both parties in a dispute, the judge decisively pre-ferred the defendant's expert but did not give his reasons in the form of a coherent reasoned rebuttal of

was under a duty to do so. In accordance with Practice Direction (Court of Appeal: Leave to appeal and skeleton arguments) [1999] I WLR 2) leave should be sought from the trial judge immedi-arely after judgment was delivered. On the application for leave, if a "no reasons" point was being tak-en, the potential respondents should consider inviting the judge to give his reasons, and his expla-

nation as to why they were not set out in the judgment, in an affidavit for use at the leave application and at the hearing if leave were to be The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment when allow-ing an appeal by Frank Flannery Flannery against the dis missal by Judge James, QC, on Jan-uary 23, 1998 at Manchester County Court of the plaintiffs' claim for professional negligence against the defendant surveyors, Halifax Es-tate Agencies Ltd, trading as Col-

spect of a valuation of property which they subsequently pur-chased should be dismissed.

The judge had heard evidence from an expert valuer and an ex-pert engineer on both sides as to the cause of cracks in the super-structure of the first floor flat purchased by the Flannerys. The judge preferred the evidence of the defendant's experts over that of the

The Flannerys complained on appeal solely that the judge failed to give reasons for that decision.

The Court of Appeal set aside the judgment, remitted the matter for retrial and made general observations on what constituted the duty to give reasons

Mr Paul Darling for the Flan-nerys; Mr Graeme McPherson for the surveyors.

LORD JUSTICE HENRY, giving the judgment of the court, said that the case raised in stark form the question when the failure of a judge at first instance to give reasons for a conclusion essential to his decision could of itself constitute a good ground of appeal.

That today's professional judge owed a duty to give reasons was clear; see, for example, R v Knights-bridge Crown Court, Ex parte International Sporting Club [1982] QB 304), although there were some

It did not always or even usually apply in the magistrates court, nor in some areas where the court's decision was more often than not a summary exercise of discretion, in particular, orders for costs. For the general duty see R v Harrow Crown Court, Ex parte Dave (1994) I All ER 315) which contained a useful review of earlier au-

It was not a useful task to astempt to make absolute rules as to the requirement for the judge to give reasons. That was because ises were so infinitely various.

For instance, when the court in a case without documents depending on eyewitness accounts was faced with two irreconcilable ac-counts, there might be little to say other than that the witnesses for one side were more credible.

But with expert evidence it should usually be possible to be more explicit in giving reasons: see Ectersies v Binnie ((1988) 18 Const LR 1, 77). Their Lordships commented on

the duty to give reasons:

I The duty was a function of due process, and therefore of justice. Its ationale had two principal as-

pects.

The first was that fairness surely required that the parties, especially the losing party, should be left in no doubt why they had won or lost. That was especially so since without reasons the losing party would not know, as was said in Ex parte. Dave, whether the court had misdirected itself, and first whether he rected itself, and thus whether he might have an available appeal on the substance of the case

The second was that a requirement to give reasons concentrated the mind; if it was fulfilled, the resulting decision was much more likely to be soundly based on the evidence than if it was not.

2 The first of those aspects implied that want of reasons might be a good self-standing ground of ap-

Where because no reasons were

whether the judge had gone wrong on the law or the facts, the losing it seemed to their Lordships that the judge's preference for the departy would be altogether denrived of his chance of an appeal unless fendants' expert, which was decithe court entertained an appeal sive, should have enabled him to based on the lack of reasons itself. give his reasons in the form of the coherent reasoned rebuttal" re-3 The extent of the duty, or rather ferred to by Lord Justice Bingham in that case. fulfil it, depended on the subject

Accordingly, in their Lordship's judgment, the judge was under a duty to give reasons and did not do so. Without such reasons his judg-Where there was a straightfor-ward factual dispute whose resolu-tion depended simply on which witment was not transparent and their Lordships could not know whether the judge had adequate or ness was telling the truth about events which he claimed to recall, it was likely to be enough for the judge, having, no doubt, summa-rised the evidence, to indicate siminadequate reasons for the conclu-It should not be assumed that

ply that he believed X rather than Y; indeed there may be nothing the court that, for whatever reason. falled to give reasons had no rea-sons. Here, for example, it seemed likely that the judge believed he had said enough. In that their Lord-But where the dispute involved something in he nature of an intel-lectual exchange, with reasons and analysis advanced on either side, ships differed from him. One alternative remedy the judge must enter into the issues canvassed before him and explain quashing the decision was to invite

or require the court to give rea-sons. Here the time which had why he preferred one case over the That was likely to apply particularly in litigation where, as here, there was disputed expert exhibits and the statement of t elapsed meant that it would not have been realistic for the judge to reconstitute his reasons. dence; but it was not necessarily limited to such cases. But, in accordance with the new Practice Direction leave should be

sought from the trial judge immedi-stely after judgment was delivered. On the application for leave, if a 4 That was not to suggest that ere was one rule for cases conon use apputation for leave, if a "no reasons" point was being tak-en, the potential respondents should consider inviting the judge to give his reasons, and his explacerning the witnesses' truthfu or recall of events, and another for cases where the issue depended on reasoning or analysis, with experts or otherwise.

nation as to why they were not set out in the judgment, in an affidavit for use at the leave application and The rule was the same: the judge must explain why he had reached his decision. The question was always what was required of the at the hearing if leave was granted. Solicitors: Pannone & Partners, ige to do so and that would differ from case to case. Transparen-Manchester; Wragge & Co, Bir-

Personal representatives were the trustees Referring to Eckersley v Binnie. benefit of Mr Cardona or Mrs Car-

Rooney v Cardona and Oth-

Before Lord Justice Swinton Tho-mas, Lord Justice Mantell and Lord Justice Robert Walker Judgment February 91

On the agreed facts between the parties that a policy of life insur-ance effected by a husband and wife, which contained no express declaration of trust not any reference to the Married Women's Prop-erty Act 1882, was subject to the projudge erred in rejecting a submis-sion that when the section referred to the personal representatives of the life assured it did so as a means of identifying the trustee or trustees who were to be legally entitled to the policy, not as a direction that they were to hold the policy as per-

sonal representatives The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by Mr Gerard Rooney, the trustee in bankruptcy of Robert Daniel Cardona, from an order of Judge Cook in St Albana County Court on August 6, 1998, varying an order of District Judge Hewetson-Brown on four preliminations in the country of the nary issues in an action against the first defendant, Mr Cardona's son, and Black Horse Insurance Company and others.

Mr John McLinden for the trustee in bankruptcy; Mr Philip Mar-shall for Black Horse Insurance pear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT WALKER said that in 1992 Mr and Mrs Cardona effected a policy with the second defendant on their own lives for ten years, with a death benefit of £60,000 payable on the death of either prior to that date.

Mr and Mrs Cardona were the rantees and the appropriate benefit was payable "to the grantee(s) or the person(s) otherwise entitled"

subject to proof of entitlement. On October 24, 1995 Mr Car-dona was adjudicated bankrupt on the petition of the Inland Revenue. On November 22, 1995 notice of his inkruptcy was published in the London Gazette. On January 30, 1996 Mr Rooney was appointed as his trustee in bankrupto

On June 8, 1996 Mrs Cardona made a will leaving her entire es-tate to her son, the first defendant. She appointed Mr Cardona and a Mr Cave as her executors.

She died on July 23, 1996. Her will was proved by Mr Cardona on September 6, 1996, power being reved to the other executor. There was no evidence that Mr

Cave bad either formally renounced prohate or taken any part in the administration of the estate. Within a short time of his wife's death Mr Carriona contacted Black Horse Insurance and subsequently obtained the death benefit, having claimed that he was legally emitted to the policy and that it had not been assigned, mortgaged, set tled, charged or otherwise

The four preliminary issues

I If Mr Cardona was the sole beneficiary of the policy, was the receipt of Mr Cardona, as his wife's legal personal representative, a valid dis charge for the proceeds of the poli-cy against the trustee in bankruptcy pursuant to section 11 of the 1882 Act assuming the only possible no-tice was the Gazette notice of November 22_ 1995?

2 Would the answer to the previous question be different if Black Horse had actual notice as plead-3 Did the proceeds of the policy de-volve on Mr Cardona as after ac-

quired property for the purposes of section 307 of the Insolvency Act 4 Would the answer to 1 and 2 be different if Black Horse had no no-

different if Black Florse had no no-tice of the capacity in which Mr Cardona gave the receipt?

Both sides agreed, and were plainly right in agreeing that the judge gave the correct answer, "No" to question 3. But the other three questions were based on an agreed but questionable premise: that the policy was effected under section 11 of the 1882 Act and was subject to the special provisions as to trusteeship contained in that see

It had been held that a policy which was a life or endowment pol-icy could fall within section !!, at any rate if the life assured died be-fore the maturity date: see In re loakimidis Policy Trusts (1925) Ch

It had also been held or opined by the majority of the Court of Ap-peal in *Oriffiths v Fleming* [1909] 1 KB 805, 817-819) that a policy on the joint lives of a busband and wife could be regarded as two policies, each effected by one or other of the married couples on his or her own life and each falling within section 11 of the 1882 Act.

In that case Lord Justice Farwell and Lord Justice Kernedy took the view, (at p818) that the joint lives policy with which they were carcerned, or rather the component of it effected by the wife, was "expressed to be for the benefit of her sband" within the meaning of

His Lordship found that view puzzling on the wording of the poli-cy recorded in the report. In In re S dec'd [1996] I WLR 235) Mr Justice Rattee also seemed to have been rather puzzled by Griffiths v Flem-ing although he followed it and ap-plied it to a joint life and 25-year en-

owment policy. Had the issue been live his Lordship would have taken the view that the court was not bound to apply the views expressed by two mbers of the court in Griffiths v Fleming in relation to a policy which they regarded as a mistaken amaigamation of two separate con-

The policy with which the courtwas concerned made no reference to section 11 of the 1882 Act. it was not expressed to be effected for the

dona. In the absence of any evidence as to separate proposal forms his Lordship would have been disposed to think that it was not within section II of the 1882 Act. But the parties must be held to their agreed starting point that the policy must be treated as if it had been a life policy effected by Mrs Cardona for the benefit of her hus-

band. The effect of the assump-tions on which the preliminary is-sues were agreed was that Mrs Cardona's personal representarives became trustees of the policy on her death. The judge recorded but rejected Mr McLinden's submission that

when section II referred to the personal representatives of the life assured it did so as a means of identifying the trustee or trustees who were to be legally entitled to the pol-In his Lordship's judgment, he was wrong to do so. The whole pur-

pose of the provisions at the end of section 11 was to identify trusted who were to hold the policy moneys on the appropriate trust, with a statutory direction that those mon-eys "shall not, so long as any object of the trust remains unperformed, form part of the estate of the insured, or be subject to his or her

Those words could hardly be clearer and excluded the possibility that Mr Cardona could act on his own in the trusteeship, if Mr Cave was indeed his co-trustee

However, his Lordship also considered the position on the hypothe-sis that Mr Cave did disclaim his eship and that Mr Cardona became sole trustee of the policy. On that hypothesis, Mr Cardona would have been sole legal owner and sole and absolute beneficial owner, but for his bankruptcy.

In those circumstances reference es to the office of trustee or Mr Cardona being entitled to give a re-ceipt in a fiduciary capacity became totally unreal

A man could not hold property in trust for himself because in such a situation the legal and beneficial erests were merged and it would be artificial to treat them as sepa-rate. From the moment of his wife's death, and with Mr Cave's assumed disclaimer of his trusteeship relating back to that moment, no other person bad any beneficial nterest in the policy.

It was property which was vest-ed in the trustee in bankrupacy in statutory trusts for Mr Cardona's creditors, and only the trustee in bankruptcy could give a good re-

That was so whether or not Black Horse had actual notice of Mr Cardona's bankruptcy, al-though if Black Horse did have notice of the bankruptcy it had to some extent brought the loss upon

Lord Justice Mantell and Lord Justice Swinton Thomas agreed. Solicitors: Pictons, St Albans: Kingsford Stacey Blackwell

Rent loss deductible for income tax purposes

Herbert Smith (a Firm) v Honour (Inspector of Taxes) Before Mr Justice Lloyd

Ljudgment February 12) An expected shortfall in rent from two leases of office premises that ceased to be occupied by a partnership that was properly included in its annual accounts drawn up according to generally accepted principles of commercial accounting was deductible in computing the parmership's annual profits for in-

come tax purposes.

Mr Justice Lloyd so held in the Chancery Division when allowing an appeal by a firm of solicitors. Herbert Smith, from the determination of special commissioners who had rejected its claim to deduct £5,511,258, being an amount included in its accounts for the 12 months to April 30, 1990 for expected loss consequent on the firm's relocation to new office premises.

Mr Edward Walker-Arnott, senior partner, Herbert Smith, in person: Mr Nicholas Warren, QC and Mr Rabinder Singh for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE LLOYD said that In 1989 the partnership occupied four offices in London and decided to move to a single office. The leas-es of two of the abandoned offices were at rents that were well above the current level of the market and were not capable of being terminat-

The partnership's accounts included a provision for the rental shortfall. The Revenue contended that although that was a proper approach as a matter of generally accepted principles of commercial accounting and a fair approach as between the firm's partners, new, continuing and retiring, nevertheless for tax purposes the partnership's profits had to be regarded as not subject to the deduction of anything in respect of the rental liability on the two leases other than the rent for the premises falling due during the period itself and that to make provision for future rent lia-bility anticipated loss in a way that

was not legitimate for tax purpos-It was not in dispute that the partnership was entitled to deduct the shortfall between the rent paya-ble under the leases and the smaller rent obtained on sublettings, even though the premises were no longer used for the purposes of the

The dispute was as to whether the shortfall was to be deducted in edvance, or rather year by year as

Mr Walker-Arnott argued that the amount in any given year of the profits of a partnership which had its accounts prepared on generally accepted principles of commercial accountancy was the profits shown by those accounts for that year.

There was, he said, only very limited scope for going behind those accounts and this case was not an instance in which, according to the decided cases, that could Mr Warren submitted that there

was a rule of mx law that neither profits nor losses might be antici-pated and that if, on their true analysis, the accounts prepared in accordance with generally accepted principles of commercial account-ing involved such anticipation. they could not be used for tax purposes but had to give way to a cal-culation which eliminated any such anticipation.

At the heart of the case were the nental accounting concepts described in the Revenue's Statements of Standard Accounting Practice, Number 2 (1971) and the decision of the Court of Appeal In Gallagher v Jones (1994) Ch 107). That case concerned a boat hire

business; the boats being obtained on long leases that involved significant rental in the first two years and nominal rental in subsequent The business accounts for the

first year showed as a deduction the full amount paid under the lease during that period. Thus they did not show a true and fair view of the financial position of the busi-

The Court of Appeal accepted the Revenue's case that in accordance with generally accepted principles of commercial accounting, the expenditure under the leases should be accounted for over the whole useful life of the boats.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Luxembourg AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER

Mr Walker-Arnott submitted

that the case was exactly like Gal-

lagher except that it was the part-

pership and not the Revenue who

relied on undisputed evidence as to

generally acceptable principles of

The present case, he said, on the

basis of accountancy evidence, was

another example of expenditure be

ing properly accounted for in a peri-od other than that in respect of

Mr Walker-Arnott was correct.

Mr Warren's argument that the commissioners' decision was sup-

ported by a supposed independent

rule against anticipation of liabili-

that it was the Revenue, rather

than the taxpayer as there, which

sought to escape from the conse-

quence of applying generally ac-

cepted principles of commercial ac-

counting by resort to an undefined

alternative principle which was

not supported by any of those gen-erally accepted principles

The case was a odirror of that in

agher, the difference being

ties had to be rejected.

which it was contractually due.

commercial accountancy.

TIMES

WAKINGNED EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW



Complimentary tickets 76 venues

his week The Times has teamed up with 90th Century Fox to offer readers the chance to see an exclusive preview screening of Waking Ned on Sunday morning, March 14 (exact times will be on the ticket). The film, a raucous modern fairy tale, was a surprise hit at the Cannes Film Festival and won rave reviews when it opened in America at Christmas. Inspired by a true story, Waking Ned follows the comic exploits

For a FREE ticket, which admits two, collect five differently numbered tokens, attach them to the completed voucher right and present them at the cinema box office of your choice, from those listed below. Tickets will be issued on a first-come first-served basis until March 13. Waking Ned opens nationwide on March 19.

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THE TIMES WAKING NED PREVIEW Present this voucher, with five differently numbered tokens from The Times attached, to one of the participating cinemas between March 4 and 13 of two friends as they stumble into a lottery scam of hilarious proportions. r of the following age groups do you bull tabs? 24 _____25-34 _____35-44 _____45-54 _____35-64 ____65-6 ons carefully selected by The Times please tick

CHANGING TIMES

European Law Report Habitual residence for income benefit

Swaddling v Adjudication Of-Case C-90/97

Before P. Jann, President of Chamber and Judges J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, C. Gulmann, L. Sevón and M. Wathelet Advocate General A. Saggio (Opinion September 29, 1998)

Judgment February 25] A Community national who, after living and working abroad, re-turned to his state of origin, declared an intention to reside there, and applied for income support. could not be refused on the sc ground that he had not yet lived

there long enough. The Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Commu-nities so held on a reference for a preliminary ruling by the Social Se-curity Commissioner, pursuant to ioner, pursuant to article 177 of the EC Treaty.

Section 124(1) of the Social Securi-Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 provided for the navment of intome support to persons who, inter-alia, were not engaged in remuner-ative work but were available for and seeking employment.

By regulation 21 of the Income Support (General) Regulations (Si 1987 No 1967), as amended by the Income Related Benefits Scheme (SI 1994 No 1807) the benefit was hot available to "persons from abroad defined, inter alia, as "a claimant who is not habitually resident in the United Kingdom".

Between 1980 and 1995 the appli-cent, Robin Swaddling, a British national, worked mainly in France, with occasional return visits to the United Kingdom. After being made redundant in France and unable to find further work there, he returned in January

1995 to the United Kingdom, where he lived with his brother. On 9 January he applied for in-come support, declaring that he no longer wished to take a job which entailed spending long periods of tinge abroad. His application was rejected on the ground that he did not meet the habitual residence re-

In appeal proceedings, the com-missioner held that for the purpos-es of the national legislation, habitual residence presupposed not only a settled intention of residing there but also an appreciable period of actual residence, that, on that footing, the applicant had become habitually resident eight weeks after his return, namely, with effect from March 4, 1995, and that his entitlement to income support therefore began on that date only.

The commissioner held further.

however, that it was necessary to make a reference to the European

Court of Justice to determine

whether the application of Commu-

nity law might lead to a different Article IOa(i) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 of June 14, 1971 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons, to self-employed persons and to members of their families moving within the Community, as con-solidated in Council Regulation (EEC) No 2001/83 of June 2, 1983 (OJ 1983 L230, p6), as amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 1247/92 of April 30, 1992 (OJ 1992

LI36, pl) provided: persons to whom this Regulation applies shall be granted (cer-tain specified benefits)?in the terri-tory of the member state in which they reside..."

income support was one of the penefits specified Article 1 of the Regulation provides: For the purpose of this Regulation: ... (h) 'residence' means ha-

In its judgment the Fifth Chamber of the European Court of Jus-

tice held: It was common ground that it was the applicant's intention, when he applied for income support, to reside in the United Kingdom, and the issue was as to the additional re-

irement of an appreciable period of actual residen

tion No 1408/71, the term 'residence for the purposes of the regu-lation meant habitual residence and therefore had a Community-

The phrase the member state in which they reside in article loa re-ferred to the state in which the per-sons concerned habitually resided and where the habitual centre of his interests was to be found. In that context, account should

be taken in particular of the per-son's family situation; the reasons which had led him to move; the length and continuity of his residence; the fact, where that was the case, that he was in stable employment, and his intention as it appeared from all the circumstances. For the purposes of that assess ment, however, the length of resi-dence in the member state in

which payment of the benefit at is-sue was sought could not be regard-ed as an intrinsic element of the meaning of article 10a. in particular, when, as in the present case, an employed person, on returning to his state of origin after exercising his right to free-dom of movement, had made it

remain in his state of origin, where his close relatives lived, while exing his readiness, should the need arise in the context of some future employment, to travel from States, he could not be deemed not to satisfy the condition concerning residence in the meaning of article loa merely because the period of sidence completed in his state of Origin was too short.

On those grounds the European Court ruled: Article IOa of Regulation No

408/7, as amended, read together with article 1(h), precluded the member state of origin - In the case of a person who had exercised his right to freedom of movement in order to establish himself in another member state, in which he had worked and set up his habitu-al residence, and who had returned to his member state of ori-gin, where his family lived, in order to seek work - from making entitlement to one of the benefits referred to in article 10a conditional On habitual residence in that state. which presupposed not only an intention to reside there, but also

completion of an appreciable peri-

clear at the time of applying for in-come support that he intended to Pursuant to article I(h) of Regula-Package travel directive not apt for student exchanges

Administrative proceedings concerning AFS Intercultur-al Programs Finland ry

Case C-237/97 Before President of Chamber J.-P. Puissochet and Judges C. Gul-mann, D. A. O. Edward and L.

Advocate General A. Saggio (Opinion July 16, 1998) Hudgment February 113 The Community directive on package travel did not apply to certain

The Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference under article 177 of the EC Treaty by the Supreme Administrative Court, Finland, for a preliminary ruling on a question of interpretation of Council Directive 90/314/EEC of June 13, 1990 on package travel,

package holidays and package tours (OJ 1990 LLS8 p59). AFS organised exchange programmes for students aged between 16 and 18, sending them abroad, usually for six to 11 months, where the students are and the students are as a second state of the state of ed school in the host country and lodged with families free of charge. The Consumer Protection Office

required AFS to register in the reg-

ister of package travel businesses pursuant to the Finnish laws imple-

menting Directive 90/314, and on its failure to do so, ordered it to suspend its business.

In its application for an order anulling that decision, AFS submitted, inter alia, that the application to it of the directive, in particular article 7 which required organisers to provide security for the refund of money paid over and repatriation in the event of insolvency, would considerably increase costs and have a detrimental effect on student exchanges.

Article 2 of the directive provides: ... (I) package means the pre-arranged combination of not fewer than two of the following when sold or offered for sale at an inclusive price and when the service covers a period of more than 24 hours or includes overnight accom-modation: (a) transport; (b) accommodation: (c) other tourist services not ancillary to transport or accom-

fied. However, the combined effect

of the type of accommodation, the

student being treated as a member

of the host family as if he were an-

other child, the fact that it was free

cant proportion of the package Court ruled: modation and accounting for a sig-nificant proportion..." In its judgment the Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice held: Since AFS organised student travel to the host country on scheduled flights, article 2(1)(a) was satis-

of charge, and the duration, was such that 'hosting' which pos-sessed all those characteristics could not be described as "accom-modation" within article 2(1)(b). Moreover, the selection of a school by the organiser could not be regarded as a tourist service within article 20)(c), as its specific

purpose was the education of the participants, and the service com-

prised by the selection of a family

to host a student was an ancillary Finally, even supposing that preparation of the documentation necessary for a stay in another country, and the courses which the students attended with their parents before departure to prepare for life abroad, could be considered to be covered by Tourist services. they did not account for a signifi-

On those grounds the European Directive 90/314 did not apply to travel (a) comprising student ex-changes of about six months or a year's duration: (b) the purpose of which was attendance by the student at an educational establishment in the host country in order to familiarise himself with its people and culture, and (c) during which the student stayed with a host fami-

ly as if he were a member thereof

TOKEN 5

Thunder ready to rumble in North East



Occasionally, Shane Richard son reflects on those words. Richardson, a corpulent figure with an even bigger reputation in the rugby league hothouse of Sydney, still has former colleagues and friends on the telephone from Australia telling him that he is crazy - calls that will be returned with interest after Sunday night when Gateshead Thunder take their bow in the JJB Super League. Imagine Martin Edwards

packing up at Manchester United to establish a football club in the Australian outback and you get some sense of the gamble that Richardson has taken with the Gateshead franchise. You do not become state manager for Queensland of Australia's largest finance company without knowing when to back a hunch, but should the Thunder go belly-up, there is no more waterside home to return to in Australia, or much else for that matter.

arrived Adelaide, Auckland and Brisbane when Richardson, 41, announced that he was leaving Cronulla, a club that went from receivership to riches in his five years as a "hands-on" general manager. At the same time, he received a call from Kath Hetherington, who founded Sheffield Eagles with her husband, Gary, about involvement in a proposed new British dub.



Guardian angel: Richardson rejected offers from numerous Australian clubs to take on the challenge of trying to establish a rugby league club in one of football's heartlands

to me. Kath said it was near Newcastle, which I'd heard of," Richardson said. "I was looking at moving back to Brisbane because Kim, my wife, was sick of moving. She stunned me when she said she'd go to England. I committed money to the business plan, but when Maurice Lindsay [the Super League Europe managing director came out the week before the franchise decision in preference for a club in Wales. I'd given up on

That was a pity because Ri-chardson had been sold on

a local stalwart of the game, whose cheque he still holds in his drawer. "Dave began rugby league here in 1979 and is still playing for Gateshead Panthers at 43." Richardson said. "He regaled me with stories over a few beers, about how they began with three players, developed into the Sunderland so and sos, and how he was kicked out by a local rugby union club for playing league. That was passion I identified with."

In the seven months since Gateshead's admission, Richardson and Kath Hethering-

tional from scratch. It is a formidable achievement. The logistics of transporting 21 players from Australia and housing them and their families were onerous enough. Per-suading first the North East business community, then a public that is force-fed a diet of football to buy into an alien sport, represent tougher propositions. Sponsorship worth £500,000 by Northern Electric and Gas caused fellow Super

League clubs to sit up.
Richardson said: "When I arrived, I imagined we'd automatically get the backers, but

what we're doing has sunk in, that the ball has been rolling. We've had to sell on three fronts: we're not rugby union. we play in summer and we're playing the best. Leeds and Wigan people have heard of." With strong support by the Gateshead local authority,

where the game is now played in 50 schools, Richardson is optimistic that Gatesbead International Stadium, where the players have found facilities to be better than at many Australian clubs, will be near its 11,000 capacity for the visit of Leeds Rhinos on Sunday.

be Good Friday night on April 2 and the game against Wake-field Trinity Wildcats. The minimum average required is 5,000, which is still more than those who came to Gateshead to watch Newcastle Falcons, who returned to Kingston Park last November after two months. Unlike the Faicons, who relied on their reputation as English rugby union club. champions. Gateshead have adopted the hard sell. Rugby league will never beat football for popularity but it is aiming for accessibility. Richardson

said: "You can't touch Newcas-

can touch the Thunder. We're out in the schools and making public appearances.

"St James' Park has become almost elitist. It's £100 for a family, if you can get tickets. A night out for the family here costs £18. We're not giving tickets away, because that creates the wrong philosophy.

"Rugby league has undersold itself too long. There's no doubt about the product and we've bought a team to play attractive football. Players like Kerrod Walters and Willie Peters don't know anything else but attack. I can put the best defensive record in the world

rugby union did here and it didn't excite anyone.

"Because of the late announcement of the franchise, we weren't able to get the quality English players we might have liked. People say we're all Aussies, but there's only one Geordie in the Newcastle United side and 36.000 still tura up. At the end of the day people want to see you win. The long-term objective is to create

an all-English team." Not a Biro has passed Richardson without his say-so. He hand-picked the players; his wife, a former fashion buyer, chose their houses and is now the club's merchandise manager. In the council leisure services department, where the Thunder are based in a room

You can't touch Newcastle United players, but you can touch the Thunder?

on the second floor, Richard-son looked down on his new domain with a mixture of anticipation and trevidation:

Shane Edwards rings me. from Brisbane Broncos all the time to tell me I'm an idiot. Sometimes 1 can't believe it myself," Richardson admitted "I'm in here at 6am. The security guard would look at me at first and say: 'Rugby league?' No chance.' Now its: 'Gateshead Thunder. I want some of

"I made no bones about it to the players. I told them it'd be freezing, that they'd have to pay for television licences, but also the good things, like the welcome and passion of the people here." Richo, Angel of the North ... the folks back bome can't quite believe it.



CHRISTOPHER IRVINE PREDICTS GLORY AT LAST FOR LEEDS AND A SEASON OF STRUGGLE FOR WAKEFIELD



LEEDS RHINOS

TIPPING a side with the 20-year record of Leeds — all of the leading prizes have eluded them — carries

a hazard warning, but consider the evidence. They have a head of

steam up in the Challenge Cup, the

strongest-looking pack, an inspira-tional force in lestyn Harris and

every incentive to deliver in

Graham Murray's final season in

charge. The platform was set last

year for the Rhinos to discard their

Coach: Graham Murray (Aus, appt Dec 1997) Ground: Headingley (22,000), 1998: Super League: 2nd. Play-offs: Grand Final runners-up, Challenge Cup: Fourth

Transfers: In: J Field (Huddersfield), L Jackson (Newcastle Knights), K Pratt (Featherstone) Out: G Brown (released), P Cantillon (Widnes), G Hewitt (Salford), G Holroyd (Halifax), T Kemp (Wakefield).

LONDON

Player to watch: Ryan Sheridan.

Betting (William Hill): 11-4.

great underachievers" tag.





PRADFORD BULLS

AFTER the peak in 1997 and trough

last year. Bradford can scale the

heights again. They have bought

impressively and are motoring in

the Challenge Cup. With the Paul

brothers in tandem, now Henry

has joined Robbie at Odsal,

inspiration is hardly in shortage. Nor is finishing power, with Nick Zisti and Michael Withers two

more exciting names to watch for.

Coacht Matthew Elliott (Aus, Sept 1996) Ground: Odsal (25,500) 1998: Super League: 5th Play-offs: Elimination semi-fi-nal, Challenge Cup: Fifth round.



ST HELENS

ELLERY HANLEY hopes that the

single-minded dedication that

marked his career will rub off on

his players. However much it hurt

to go out of the Challenge Cup, the

well-worn phrase about concentrat-

ing on the league might be no bad thing. If St Helens can beat Wigan

in the third round of matches, the

talk of prematurely disposing of

Shaun McRae (three trophies in

three years) will temporarily sub-

side. Will win more matches than

they lose: possibly not the key ones.

they lose; possibly not the key ones. Coach: Ellery Hanley (Eng. Nov 1998). Ground: Knowsley Road (19,100), 1998; Super League: 4th. Play-offs: Final elimina-tor. Challenge Cup: Querter-finals. Transfera: In: P Adamson (Pennith), K Iro (Auckland), S Nickle (Bradiord), F Tulagi (Halifax). Out: P Anderson (Sheffield), D Busby (Wamngton), B Goldspink (Wigan), K Hammond (London), J Hayes (Salford), I Pickavance (Fluddersfield), D Smith (re-leased).



CASTLEFORD TIGERS

YOU could perm any one of half-a-

dozen clubs for the fifth play-off

spot. Castleford have the creden-

tials to clinch it as they look to

sustain the momentum that has

been building in the two years since

Stuart Raper's arrival as coach. He

is joined by his younger brother. Aaron, a quality hooker in a pack further bolstered by the signings of

two giants, Darren Fritz and the

Coach: Stuart Raper (Aus, April 1997). Ground: Wheldon Road (11,750), 1998: Super League: 6th. Challenge Cup: Quarter-finals.

Ouerte-finals.

Transfers: In: M. Eager (Warrington), D. Fritz (North Oueensland), A. Hill (York), J. Pickering (Sydney City), A. Raper (Paramata), D. Rogers (Salford). Out: J. Bern (York), D. Chepman (Keightey), J. Critchley (Newport Ruwidnes), M. Ford (Bramley), R. McKell (released), B.-J. Malher (Sale Ru), R. Russell (Bramley), A. Schick (Keightey), M. Smith (Hutt)

atch: Danny Ort.

ageless James Pickering.





long-term injuries that the entire team has a fresh feel and will be tough to crack at home. Coach: Darryl van de Velde (Aus, Merch 1997). Ground: Wilderspool (9,350). 1998: Super Leegue: 10th. Challenge Cup: Fifth

tions. So many are returning from

round.
Transfers: In: D Busby (St Helens), S Gillies (Canterbury), D Hanger (Huddersfield), A Hunte (Hull). Out: A Doyle (released), M Eager (Castleford), V Fawcett (Welsefield), M Pechay (released), B Tuuta (Featherstone), D Whittle (released), P Wingfield (Leigh).

Planer to wester Player to watch: Scott Wilson.



SHEFFIELD felt that winning the Challenge Cup last year inhibited them in the Super League, so falling at the first hurdle provides an even greater incentive to fulfil their priority of a play-off spot. There is less bulk up front but more speed out wide, where Keith Senior and Karl Lovell will cause damage: Consistency is what John Kear is after - a tricky objective in the highly competitive middle ground.

130 raterial

WEET,

Coech: John Kear (Eng. May 1997). Ground: Don Valley Stadium (25,000). 1998: Super League: 8th. Challenge Cup:

Winners.
Transfers: In: P Anderson (St Helens), S Transfers: mr. P Anderson (St Helens), S Baldwin (Halifax), J Hardy (Syciney St George), K Loveil (Parramatia), M Pearson (Halifax), D Powell (Halifax), Out: P Broad-bert (Halifax), P Carr (Australia), W Hyna: (Batley), W Morganson (Australia), N Law (Ioan, Walerield), N Pintoney (Halifax), L-Stott (Wakefield), W Taawa (Hull KR), M Wood (Kelghley). ch: Keith Senior.



LONDON BRONCOS LONDON flattered to deceive in 1998. They bought big names, who often let them down. Under Dan Stains, the latest Australian coaching whizz, the Broncos are building steadily, quietly and with a resolute purpose. All-English half-backs, in Shaun Edwards — in his second spell at The Stoop -- and Karle Hammond, makes a change. They have enough streetwise Australians, too, to ensure that London will make life difficult for even

Coach: Dan Stains (Aus, Nov 1998). Ground: Stoop Memorial (10,000). 1998: Super League 7th, Challenge Cup. Semi-fi-

Transfers: In: O Bradsfreet (Illawarra), D Calloway (Illawarra), G Fleming (Canterbury Buildogs), K Hammond (St Helens), A Serbolid (Canberra), R Simpson (Sydney St George), N Sologinkin (Canberra), B War-ton (Sydney Wests) Out: M Carroli (South Sydney), A Fatnowna, I Higgins (both Hunslet), M Salter (West Hartlepool RU), M Dunford, S Rosolen, T Matterson (all re-tired). R Best, D Chapman, W Cotton, L Goodwin, D Higgins, N Mardon (all re-

Player to watch: Karle Hammond Betting: 33-1

the best sides.

WIGAH WARRIURS

NAGGING doubts surround the champions. They will be thereabouts come October, but it is their lack of depth, traditionally Wigan's strength, that gives concern. Too many of the mainstays of last season have gone, notably Henry Paul and Robbie McCormack. Greg Florimo is no ordinary replacement for the mercurial Paul, but the suspicion is that Wigan have seen better players leave than arrive.

piayers seave than arrive.

Coach: John Mone (Aus., Nov 1997).

Ground: Central Perk (17,200); from September, Robin Park (25,000). 1998: Super League: 1st. Play-offs; Grand Final winners. Challenge Cup: Runners-up.

Transfers: In: G Flormo (North Sydney), B Goldspink (St Helens), M Reber (North Sydney) Out: S Barrow (Hull), N Baynes (Salvord), M Beil (retired), D Cardiss (Halifax), S Holgate (Hull). R McCormack (retired), H Pau (Bradford), I Talbot (Walrefield), N Winght (Huddersfield)

Player to watch: Jason Robinson.

Player to watch: Jason Robinson. Betting: Evens.

R.L.F.C.

HALIFAX BLUE SOX

FROM third place to ninth is some

fall, and most got it wrong about Halifax last season, so John Pendle-

bury (1998 coach of the year) can

lob more eggs at ignorant pundits if

the Blue Sox reach the play-offs for a second year. This season the com-

petition looks tougher, as was indi-

cated by an early departure from

the Challenge Cup at the hands of

Warrington, whom Halifax meet at

the New Shay on Sunday. The Blue

Sox have equipped themselves mod-estly with a clutch of English re-

cruits, notably Paul Broadbent and Graham Hoiroyd, but have lost out

in the backs, to St Helens with the

prolific Fereti Tuilagi.

Coach: John Pendlebury (Eng. March 1997) Groundt New Shay (11,000) 1998: Super League: 3rd. Play-offs: Elimination semi-final. Challenge Cup Fifth round Transfers: In: P Broadbart (Sheffield), D Cardiss (Wigan), A Craig (Swinton), G Holroyd (Leeds), N Pinkney (Sheffield). C Randall (Safford) Out: S Baldwin (Sheffield), J Bentley (Huddersheid), C Dean (Leigh), K Harrison (Hull), M Hall (Hut), M Pearson (Sheffield), F Tuilagi (St Helens), Player to watch: Gavin Clinch.

Betting: 33-1

prolific Fereti Tuilagi.

nal, Challenge Cupi. Hith round.

Transferst Int. D Boyle (Canberna), S Naylor (Seiford), H Paul (Wigan), L Radford (Huil), M Withers (Belman), N Zisti (Cronula) Outt. G Bradley (retired), M Calland (Huil), K Crouthers (Wakefield), A Booku traited), N Graham (Dewsbury), H Howard (Sydney Wests), A Hodgson (Wakefield), S Knox (released), P Medley (loan, Dewsbury), S Nickle (St Hetens), T Reihana (released), J Scales (Leeds RU).

Player to watch: Henry Paul.

Betting: 3-1.

HUDDERSFIELD GIANTS













THE Giants of 1999 hear little resemblance to the cowed bunch who managed only two league victories last year. Malcolm Reilly. the first English coach to win an Australian Grand Final, with Newcastle Knights in 1997, has returned to the domestic game as determined as ever. Natural talent already at the club in Bobbie Goulding and Danny Russell has been supplemented from overseas by a no-nonsense trio of Jim Lenihan. Andrew Tangata-Toa and David Boughton, plus Nigel Wright and John Bentley.

Coach: Malcolm Reilly (Eng. Nov 1998) Ground: McAlpine Stadium (25.000) 1998: Super League: 12th Challenge Cup Fourth round. Transfers: In: J Bentley (Halitax). D Mannerst E. J. Seriely (Fallar), D. Brughton (Gold Coast), J. Lerihan (Sychey St George), I. Pickavance (St Helens), A. Tangata-Toa (Sychey St George), N. Wright (Wigan), Out: G. Adams (released), A. Zelle (released), J. Field (Lecis), D. Hanger (Warrington), P. Jackson (Wakrield), L. Müner (Deurchau), C. C. (Withers), G. Sebolield (Dewsbury), C Orr (Oldham), G Schofield (Donossier), J Wittenberg (released) B Barton, P Veivers (both retired)

Player to watch: Nice! Wright.

GATESHEAD THUNDER

IF the Thunder can begin their great adventure with a lightning bolt by beating Leeds on Sunday, it is not just the good folk of Gateshead who will sit up. No committed bunch of Australians can be taken lightly, and Gateshead have the players to cause upsets and rattle cages, plus a Super League-winning coach in Shaun McRae. It is a question of a small squad staying injury-free. Over a 30-match programme, the demands will take

Coach: Shaun McRae (Aus., Oct 1998). Ground: Galeshead International Stadium

(11,500)
Squad: 3 Sammut (Cronulla), M Daylight (Adelade). D Bird (Adelade). C Smon (Mawarra), Herron (Sydney St George), W Robinson (Illawarra), W Peters (South Sydney). D Lee (Cronulla), K Walters (Adelade), L Felsch (Sydney St George), C Wilson (Illawarra), A Hick (Adelade), T Grimakti (Canterbury Bulldogs), S Collins (Featherstone), O Maiden (Carns), A Maher (Rochidale), B Grogan (Newcastle Knights), S Allwood (Brisbane), R Alwood (Brisbane), B Green (Brishane), R Hugili (Gateshead Academy). B Carney (Dublin Blues), S Singleton (UWC).

Betting: 100-1.

SALFORD REDS

SALFORD have picked up bargains in the player market and look stronger and more committed, which also goes for Andy Gregory, whose brushes with authority and personal battles are consigned to the past. Again it is about strength in depth and Salford lack the sufficient quality to withstand an arduous programme and finish outside the bottom three while sustaining their present cup run. Fun guaranteed if Gregory can disprove the doubters.

Coach: Andy Gregory (Eng., March 1995). Ground: The Willows (12,000). 1998: Super League: 11th Challenge Cup: Semi-fineto.

finals.

Transfers: In: N Baynes (Wigan), C Briggs (Wakefield), D Brown (Pennth), P Carge - (Paramatta), G Casey (Walkefield), J Hayes (St Helens), G Hewitt (Leeds), M Johnson (Hull). C Malen (Widnes), H Smith (Balman), B Thompson (Pennth). Out: A Burgess (Rochdale), P Coussons (Rochdale), C Eccles (Switten), P Edwards (York, P Forber (Workington), P Hassan (Worcester RU), S Kenward (Walkefield), S Naylor (Bradford), A Platt (Workington), C Randall (Halifax), D Rogers (Castleford), L Savefio (Widnes), J While (Workington), Playwer to watch: Darren Brown. ayer to watch: Darren Brown.

HULL SHARKS MODEST success would see five-

figure crowds back at the Boule-

vard, but despite re-inforcement of their pack, Hull remain hampered by a thin squad, which will be at full stretch from the start tomorrow. The Sharks are served as the ritual sacrifice for Wigan at Central Park, where they have not won since 1992. There will be one or two scalps on the way, but the consistency which Peter Walsh seeks will probably elude him again. At least with David Lloyd committed to Hull, the club should be spared last year's turmoil behind the scenes. Coach: Peter Walsh (Aus., July 1997). Ground: Boulevard (11,000), 1998: Super League: 9th. Challenge Cup: Quarter-Imals. Transfers: In: S Barrow (Migen), M Calland (Bradford), M Hell, K Herrison (both Habilax), S Holgate (Wigen), A Purcei (Illawarra), R Roberts (Keighley), M Smith (Castleford), Out: M David (Bramley), K Grey (Hull KR), J Donothue, B Hepi (both research). A Hunta (Warrington), M, Johnson leased). A Hunte (Warrington), M Johnson (Salford), H Okesene (Featherstone), L Radiord (Bradford), D Stephenson (Rochdale), J Ternu (Newcastle Knights), G Torminson (Wekefield).

Player to watch: Craig Murdock: Betting: 150-1.

WAKEFIELD TRINITY

WILDCATS AVOID relegation or bust. Everything about Wakefield's admission to the Super League looks to be a gamble. If they do not survive, there is an awful precedent of the late Oldham Bears being relegated and going out of business. Belle Vue is crumbling, so some games will be played at Barnsley FC. will be played at Barnsley FC.
Coach: Andy Kelly (Eng., June 1997).
Grounds: Belle Vue (10,000)/Calwell.
Bamsley FC (18,805), 1998: First division:
1st. Play-offs: First division Granid Final winners. Chellenge Cup: Fourth round.
Transfers: In: A Brunker (Sydney St.
George), K Crouthers (Bradford), V Fawcet.
(Warington), A Hodgson (Bradford), A
Hughes (Leads), P Jackson (Fluidderstield).
T Kamp (Leads), S Kerweard (Selford), N
Law (Ican, Sheffield), W Poching (Sydney St.
George), G Price (Featherstone), L Statt
(Sheffield), I Talbot (Wigan), G Tonfirson
(Hull), F Wetene (Auckland), S Watens
(Auckland), Out. J Bostock (Oddram), C
Briggs (Sattord), G Casey (Sattord), M Full-(Auctiand). Out: J Bostook (Odrigen). Usings (Sattord), G Casey (Sattord), M Fuller (released), S Hicks (Dewstury), R Horsley (Featherstone). I Hughes (Huit KR), C Judge (York), R Karworthy (released), M Law (Featherstone), G Lord (Battey), D Mycoe (Humslet), S Whakarau (released), J Wray (Huit KR). Player to watch: Tony Kemp.

Cashman trades on policy of naming his price

HIS name is Cashman and he opened his first betting shop in Blarney Street, so it is not at if punters lacked fair warning. In the intervening 27 years, however, they have obliged with so much business, notably over the telephone, that his Cork offices are now a key observation post in the Cheltenham Festival front line.

Military metaphor — entrenchment, big guns, going over the top — is frequently enlisted to describe the three most frantic punting days in the calen-dar. While hostilities do not formally commence until Tuesday week, however, Liam Cashman has been persisting with guerrilla tactics through-out the past 12 months.

Immediately the bumper had been run last year, we had inquiries for a price against Alexander Banquet, the winner, for the 1999 Royal & SunAlliance Novices' Hurdle," Cashman said yesterday. "Also for odds about Joe Mac, the second, in the Citroen Supreme Novices' Hurdle, We went 10-1 the two of them, and they're now both 3-1 fav-

Cashman and another Irish layer, Paddy Power, have long embarrassed the big British chains with their Festival betting, offering prices much earlier and on many more races. British punters owe them a debt of gratitude for coaxing, over the past year or two, a bit By Chris McGrath

more ante-post adventure from the craven behemoths on It is possible, nowadays, to-

monitor the progress of a horse towards the status of Cheltenham "banker". Typically the fate of these three or four horses, invariably Irish-trained, will determine the overall fortunes of the Festival war. Bankers will frequently be linked together in doubles and trebles, and success has re-cently assured the likes of Danoli, Wither Or Which, Istabraq and Florida Pearl a cherished place in Irish racing

Florida Pearl, seeking his third Festival win, has been a particular menace to Cashman, as he is owned by the wife of a local businessman, Archie O'Leary. "He was a disaster in the bumper two years ago, because he was such a terrible starting-price result." Cashman said. "We were laying 3-1 all the previous week, yet he went off at 6-1 on the day. He wasn't quite so bad last year, because on the Thursday we had Dorans Pride, Paddy's Return and Ele-

gant Lord all turned over." The tone will be set this year in the first race, where the market has long been dominated by Joe Mac and Cardinal Hill both owned by the icon of Irish punters, J. P. McManus. cornerstone of many multiples in Cushmun's ledger, while banker status also looms for Nick Dundee (provided he is kept to novice company) and Lanturn (National Hunt

book, however, is the Weatherbys Champion Bumper, "We are holding as much on that as the rest of the meeting put to-gether," Cashman said. "We have laid bets of £1,000 or more on ten individual horses and £500 on a further ten " In the Gold Cup, meanwhile, Mill. "I just can't see him winning. In that hunter chase at Cheltenham. he floundered worse than One Man."

As a young man in England, Cashman worked in a betting shop by day, behind a bar in the evenings, and drove a minicab by night. He is ready to join battle and even offers a banker of his own, Makounji in the Cathcart Chase.

She is trained in England, but the special flavour of the Festival — and its slightly manic betting edge — is supplied by his compatriots. "I love the cut and thrust," he said. "It's like the rugby this weekend. If Ireland have any spark about them, they Il raise their game against England, just like the Scots and the Welsh. It'll be the same story at Chelten-



Flying Officer, ridden by Tim Sprake, stretches clear of his rivals to give Sir Mark Prescott a winner on his birthday on the all-weather at Wolverhampton yesterday

Swinburn puts back return to race-riding

WHILE he bravely insists that his perseverence will eventually pay off, the odds against Walter Swinburn making another comeback remain dispiriting. A state-ment issued by his family yesterday conceded that the troubled jockey will miss the start of the Flat turf season. three weeks today at Don-

HUGH ROUTLEDS

"Walter is still working to-wards a resumption of his riding career," the statement said. "He is engaged in a long-term programme with experts and counsellors aimed at resolving the major problem of his weight. It is taking longer than expected and has not been easy. He is still positive but unfortunately will not be back in time for the start of the Flat.". Last year Swinburn, rider

of three Derby winners, con-founded expectations with a heartening return from ten months of self-imposed exile, riding 51 winners with apparently undiminished flair. In August, however, he suc-cumbed to a relapse of his weight problems and their associated torments. At 37, he must defeat inevitable scepticism that he can make

it back yet again. Swinburn's young col-league, Antonio Polli, experi-enced a different low of the profession when stretchered off the course at Wolverhampton yesterday. The apprentice, unseated from Another Lover on the way to the start for the seller, was taken

to hospital for precautionary

X-rays. With the Cheltenham Fes-National tival looming, National Hunt jockeys will be particularly keen to avoid miury or suspension Mick Fitzgerald was yesterday cut from 14-1 to 7-1 in Coral's opening day of trading on the London Clubs Charity Trophy for leading rider at the meeting. Tony McCoy is 13-8 favourite



Swinburn: return delayed

year running, followed by Norman Williamson at 11-4. Richard Dunwoody is 7-1, berry and Joe Tizzard 14-1. and Richard Johnson at 16-1. Fitzgerald's book of rides includes Call Equiname in the Queen Mother Champi-

on Chase. Tizzard is stable jockey to the horse's trainer, Paul Nicholls, but the teenager has instead been told to ride the rank outsider. Green Green Desert.

THUNDERER 3.30 Symbol Of Success 2.00 Amoroso 4.00 Wilmott's Fancy 2.30 Native Charm 4.30 Marching Marquis 3.00 Baraguey Timekeeper's top rating: 2.30 NATIVE CHARM. Carl Evans: 4.30 Mr Golightly.

GOING: CHASES: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES); HUROLES: SOFT TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.00 CORVEDALE NOVICES HURDLE (52,626; 2m) (14 runners) -BPPSR WIELSH MARIVEST 28 (Berleibte Commercial Com. Life) b Williams 7-11-2 D Grittans PP-255 LEADING NOTE 83 (Leaders) Moss N Ringle 5-10-11 DOUBTRU, 88 421 AMORDSD 48 (5) Bainer Boys N Henderson 4-10-9 M A Pitzperial BE DANZE FLYER 547 (Mrs. R Faringlos Krittany) 8 Basch 4-10-8 E Pustumod 2556 SADDLERS FROE 17 (Ford Faringlos Krittany) 8 Basch 4-10-8 A Johnson 94 TUI 225 (Drugos Rocany) P Bowen 4-10-3 J R Karnmegh 55 BETTANG: 10-11 Amoraso, 4-1 Brilliant Stat. 5-1 Moscow Mest, 5-1 Saddlest' Roe. 12-1 Tox, 20-1 others.

1998: POLYDAMAS 5-11-8 N YARLANDOD (4-5 ba) X Balley 17 RM 1990: POLYDAMAS 5-11-8 N Williamson (4-5 ke) X Balley 17 ran
Brillard Star 20. 4th of 14 to Ricardo in soone levelle at Utionete (2m.
heave), previously bear Enter N counce 21 in 15-conner creation bardle at
lattice (2m. mit) with Weet And Son (6th better 6th 135 fit). Bon Lack
4ut san of 9 to Chophn in setting worth a Strattor (2m. 11) red, good to sold, become Milet 211 and of 12 to
Austains in maiden handle at Taminon (2m. 11, good to sold). Leading Wort 141 Sth of 8 to Cachaplenty in noved
hardcap handle at Contractor (2m. 11) byt, goods, previously 151 Sh of 11 to Rabus With Time at mobile tended
hardcap handle at Windamin (2m. 10, good to sold). Amorasion back Goodwood Carbas Visit in 5-cases 4ye recibin hasde at Februario (2m. 11) 1104, beary); previously 61 2nd of 9 to New Bard on 3ye novice handle at Narashot
(2m. 11, good) to sold, previously 2015 th of 11 to Dangerus Precedent in 4ye control burdle at Person
(2m. 11, good) to sold, previously 2015 th of 11 to Dangerus Precedent in 4ye control burdle at Center-Hard
(2m. 11, good to sold), previously 2015 th of 11 to Dangerus Precedent in 4ye control burdle at Center-Hard
(2m. 11, good to sold), previously 2015 th of 11 to Dangerus Precedent in 4ye control burdle at Center-Hard
(2m. 11, good to Sold), previously 2015 th of 11 to Dangerus Precedent in 4ye control burdle at Center-Hard
(2m. 11, good to Sold). Sold the Sold th

2.30 TATTERSALLS (IRELAND) EBF MARES NOVICES CHASE (QUALIFIER) (£3,838: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

BETTANG 8-13 Native Chans, 4-1 Ferrytee Des. 7-1 La Brigantine. 8-1 Tiges Pasis, 16-1 Glevent 90-1 Millord Way 1998: LADY HIGH SHERRET 8-10-10 N W Brocker (13-8 tol) T Foreign 8 cm

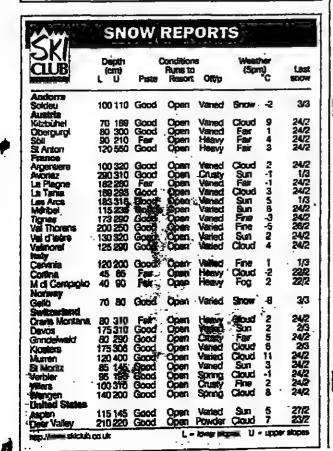
1998: LADY MCH, SERRIF B-10-10 N Walkdroop (13-4 by) I forsis 6 day

States Charm 12 2nd of 5 to Wyngant keeps in navote chase at Doncasta.

Char 100d, pool to soft), previously bus from Who 4 to 8 man forcedchase at Warneth Char, good to soft, prompts Date day the Darportan 12st
or 10-dynner nowice handway chase at Uttopeler (2m 51 news). General 64 first of 15 to Flood Make or hundcap handwa 1 Santon (2m 100d, good to soft). Befigantine (7n 3 at of 11 to free Wye in an owner handway
laudin at Doncaster (2m 100d, good), previously viol 30 of 8 to Mal Jerus, in notice chase of Fronteel (2m 3), soft.

Millord Way bodien a distance 5th of 9 to Count Campenni in novice burder, at Faterbarn (2m 4, soft). MATINE CHARM can only a smart soil latest and now has a used constructly to unlone before

COURSE SPECIALISTS



3.00 CLEE HILL NOVICES HURDLE (£2,542: 2m 5f 110yd) (15 rumbers)

1998, SHIPLEY VEHTURE 5-10-11 S Kelly (10-1) Miss V WHERE 13 nm

(£5,394: 3m) (4 runners)

401 -REDSS PARERILEY PLACE 20 (B.CD.B.S) (A Cresser) II Tundon-Davies 11-12-0 C Limidays 132
402 14-391 SYLBOIL OF SUDDESS 13 (D.F.G.S) (A OT Record) O Williams 4-11-11 PLubricon 123
403 31-397 STANALORS 27 F.G.S) (Davies Biocontenct) S Standays 17-11-1 S Brodey 140
404 113321 ROYAL BARGE 77 (D.F.G.S) (E Harries) P Sowen 9-11-1 R Democody 123 BETTING, 7-4 Royal Barge, 2-1 Symbol Of Success, 3-1 Starvages, 11-2 Pirobelley Place. 1988. PRATERILEY PLACE 10-11-1 C Lieuthyn (25-1) K Tuston-Davies 9 can

Proberty Place 48 h of 9 in Lash Cricial in burdiang bartle at Newbery (2m 31 good to pall, pre-leady 411 bat of 5 to Goode Remain in bardiang bartle at Newbery (2m 31 good to pall, pre-leady 411 bat of 5 to Goode Remain in bardiang (2m 31 good), 15 and ROYAL BARGE has taken well to cluster and remains on an attached must

4.00 TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (SHOWCASE RACE) (£5,455: 2m 5f 110yd) (8 runners)

Long handicap, Pather's First 9-11, Canour Sid 9-3, Two Look 8-9 BETTING 4-5 Without 6 Farcy, 7-2 Rushy Reel, 7-1 Advance East, 12-1 Mr Souggle, Woodstack Wandows, 14-1 Father's First, 33-1 Gaznes 5rd, Two Looks

1998: MADAM MERCK 7-10-12 C Lienes yo (2-1 lar) II Treates Carles, 13 can 1990: MADAM MUCK 7-16-12 C (Lievelly) (2-1 lar) if Twaston-Darke, 13 can be supplied to the control of the cont PLISTY REEL has shoot latter rating in recent segues but appears to relate plenty of ability

4.30 LUDLOW GOLD CUP (HUNTERS CHASE) (£1,564: 3m) (11 numbers) BETTING, 5-4 Cebs; Abbry, 2-1 Mr Coligitaly, 11-4 Neurolog Marques, 12-4 Clobracion; Last Highway Five, 20-1 The Whole Hog, 50-1 others. 1908 LANCENSTUMM (ID-12-8 Mag C Phores (18-11 & Magnes 8 mg

1966 LANCERSTORM 10-12-8 Max C Thomas (16-11 R Mathes 2 age
Cellor, Abboyle (5) Rh of 10 to Varylanny in further charse at Haydock (3)m,
soft) previously 177 3d of 10 to Varylanny in further charse at Haydock (3)m,
soft) previously 177 3d of 10 to Samence in hindrices chains at Statistic
(2m S 110yd, good to Innit, The White Holp prifed up in fundace than
3 Tomas Roddom Wonder cutied to in further charse at Statistic (3)m 4, shoot, previously 1-4 3m of 11
in Stady Erman in funds catter at Bangue (3m 100)d, good. Gobonicien Lad best Link Copper 20 in 4-statistic
charse that of charse 10 2m 3d, family filterating Marquis 3°43 and of 15 to Assault Rhs Hom in hardcharse (2m 4) and marginal previously 23 8 for of 17 to Instanting in works have for the Home in hardrelated (2m 5) good to firm). Mr Goldpithy 41 2nd of 13 to Destin 2T-Street in hunter chars at Bangue (2m 4)
113nd, good to post) with Desert Callor (7% weets of this 4 sh and Eas So Side 17% error off public to.) Perit
Lin quied up in honer chars at Heiningdom (3m, good), previously healen a discharse She et 13 is Moderne
Wonder (3t better off) as harder chars at Linking (2m 4), good).

MALENZAMME MARPUEST on well be a winder eart at Sandous excentiv and lass, solid claims here MARCHING MARCES for well in a surely event of Sandows recently and has solid claims here

5.00 WEATHERBYS "STARS OF TOMORROW" DITERMEDIATE OPEN NH FLAT (£1,494: 2m) (14 numers)

SETTING, 9-4 Oceanor, 3-1 though 4-1 Fe's Baby, 7-1 Description Tank, Peters, 12-1 Hard Corry, 20-1 opens.

sec 11985, 9-4 Usoshot, 2-1 Wangs, 4-1 Fa's Baby, 7-1 Developing Tank, Pettree, 72-1 Mary Cercy, 20-1 others, 1998. BUCSURS MATE 5-11-4 G Clametry, 18-13 lary it freshort-Device; 13 use 1998. BUCSURS MATE 5-11-4 G Clametry, 18-13 lary it freshort-Device; 13 use 1999. But 1999

2.10 TAIN TON (nap). 2.40 Almspa. 3.10 Trouble Ahead. 3.40 Blackwater Brave. 4.10 Bells Wood. 4.40 Dovetto. 5.10 Falcon Ridge. Carl Evans: 4.10 Ardstown.

2.10 TAUNTON NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES KURDLE

(£3,371: 2m 3f 110yd) (13 runners)

2.40 PITMINSTER SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE -(£1,621: 2m 1f) (13)

1 3446 ALIAMPA ES (CD.P) R Hodges 7-11-10 AP McCoy 75
2 5125 BLLE ELAZER R2 (S) R Hodges 7-11-10 Line AP McCoy 75
3 USUS MEMORY'S MUSIC GFM Medoparts 7-11-1 Line April 1983
4 BULS RY'S MC RC GFM Medoparts 7-11-1 Lines E Junes 74
5 66-5 RLAZE OF OWN & P Ecoles 6-10-12 Miles V Roberts (7) 80
6 400 ROSSE-8 42 (C.G) S Keight 9-10-9 GF Rym (S) 70
7 /PR7 KEEN BO 8 (B) Mrs L Richards 8-10-8 GF Rym (S) 70
9 4-90 TUDOR TOWN 75 P Party 11-10-5 MS Shored 47
10 3263 GALLORING BURS 12 60.05 B Use with 7-10-6 R Theretoe 75
10 0220 BALLORING BURS 12 60.05 B Use with 7-10-6 R Theretoe 75
10 0220 BALLORING BURS 13 60.05 B Use with 7-10-6 R Theretoe 76
10 200 SYLPHIDE 25F N Memory 4-10-0 M Revenue (7) 45
13 6-0P KIRBURY PRINCESS 28 8 Milms 5-10-0 D Selfar 7-2 Galloping Gurs, 9-2 Blor State, 6-1 Almaps, Keek Bid, 8-1 Miscory's Music, 10-1 11th Son, 12-1 Blaze Of Dat, 14-1 others.

3.10 natwest hovices chase (23,193; 3m) (5) 45 High in The Chooks, 9-4 Trouble Frend, 9-2 Millerstont, 25-1 others.

(£2,752: 3m 110yd) (8) 1 - 3-9 BLACKWATER BRAVE 76 P Nichols 6-11-3 ... I Ticrard - 2 3355 SRONFALLOW 9 (2) Mrs 8 Westin 6-11-3 ... E Byrne 57 - 3-55 DERRY SLEP 46 in Invitato Derries 5-11-3 ... E Minde 56 4 A33 GREY COAT BOY 14 J Ning 7-11-3 ... A P NicCoy 57 OJ JANDA 65 P ROOF 5-11-3 ... S Burrough 6-5 DOJ JANDA 65 P ROOF 5-11-3 ... S Burrough 6-5 DOJ JANDA 65 P ROOF 5-11-3 ... A Librarie 15 7 322P Nickey 190 (1) Mindeparts 5-11-3 ... A Goldston 63 8 ... THE DESTAP SPY 20 M Sheppant 6-10-12 ... R Widger (2) -5-2 Martin Rastics, 7-2 Hendry End, 4-1 Steyrons Boy, 9-2 Decar Glein, 9-1 Blackmater Scient, 7-1 Brastiniton, 66-1 Jarvist, The Destiti Styl.

3.40 SHEPTON MALLET NOVICES HURDLE

THUNDERER 2.20 Sharp Hint, 2.50 Catultus, 3.20 Melody Queen, 3.50 Levelled, 4.20 Speedy Classic, 4.50 GONG: STANDARD

2.20 CANDEN ROAD MAIDEN STAKES

DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.50 WAVELL MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (52.508: 1m 50 (5)

2-1 Storp Her, 3-1 Benesicen, 7-2 Migrate, 4-1 Dent Ask, 11-1 Scienticus.

3.20 DAY OUT AT THE WINTER DERBY HANDICAP (3-Y-O £2,948: 1m) (5)

19-11 Cabilla, 9-4 June Anii, 7-1 Tarbiya, 9-1 Sartestre, 29-1 Casar's Ribester

11-4 lotten Sweeper, 3-1 Kertucky Bullet, 7-2 Metally Osseln, Stech Deal, 11-2 As4.10 MITTORD SLADE CHALLENGE TROPHY HUNT-ERS CHASE (Amateurs: £2,931: 3m) (15)

9 25-3 JUST BEN 19P (D.G.S) K Demings 11-17-12

10 421- LONESONG TRAVELLER 341P (D.F.G.S) Mis M Hand 10-11-12

Mis A Hand (7) —

11 UF-P PEARL DANTE 12P (D.F.G.) Mis S NAUTHS 9-11-12

12 21-1 ARDSTOWN 19P (D.S.) R F Kolpe 8-11-7 JM T Dennis (7) —

13 25-1 HYNG MARIA 278P (D.F.S) 2 S Papsorts 8-11-7

14 42-P LADY LIR 19P (D.S.) 8 Young 10-11-7 JM T, Heard (7) —

15 1-35 LICY THE LARK 17 (8)-6.5) Miss H Invito 11-17-7

LICY HAND (17) 4-15 1-15 LICY THE LARK 17 (8)-6.5) Miss H Invito 11-17-7

LICY HAND (17) 4-15 1-15 LICY THE LARK 17 (8)-6.5) Miss H Invito 11-17-7

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LICY THE LARK 17 (8)-6.50 Miss H Invito 11-17-7

LICY THE LARK 17 (8)-6.50 Miss H Invito 11-17-7

LICY THE LARK 17 (8)-6.50 Miss H Invito 11-17-7

LICY THE LARK 17 (8)-6.50 Miss H Invito 11

4.40 ROYAL BATH & WEST NOVICES HANDICAP 7 4442 DONETTO 10 (S) C J Price 10-10-6 A Maguin Bill 8 PCZ SPY DESSA 48 A Newcords 11-10-0 A Appal 9 R 20 REVER PITCH 16 R Hodge 9-10-0 P Holley 15 SP30 TEE TEE TOO 17 C Incison 7-10-0 R Bothumy 100 2-1 Doveto, 4-1 Mes Pumphill, 9-2 Sol Mesoc, 6-1 Caddy's Piet, Spy Desse, 18-1 Hightown Coming, 20-1 Give And Tale, 25-1 others.

5.10 BLACKDOWN HILLS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,963: 2m 1f) (6)

? 4 High Love, 11-4 Fercer's Classit, 3-1 Palcon Ridge, 8-2 Mondanco, 25-1 Fit To Boot, Dancing Dismite.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSPEC: T Forster, S viscours bord 10 reamers, 30,0%; N Babbage, 4 from 19, 21,1%; M Place, 40 from 203, 18,7%; H Mayrers, 3 from 17, 17,5%; P Mayrey, 5 from 22, 13,6%; P Rodined, 5 from 22, 13,5%; G Edwards, 4 from 22, 12,5%; N S Williams, 3 from 24, 12,5%; P Michalla, 10 from 84, 11,9%; R Hodges, 17 from 146, 11,6%.

Blinkered first time TAUNTON: 2.40 Galloping Goes. 4.40 Covers Boy. 5.10 Feoces's Quest.

3.50 ARENA LEISURE PLC HANDICAP (26,127: 51) (6) 10.727: 04) (0) 1 225- LEVELLED 121 (BF.D.F.B.S) M Channon 5-10-0 Candy Morris 6

2 0-13 SOAVED 51 (SF.CD.F.G) D Chapman 6-9-10 Candy Mouris 8 3 2211 MINANEARS 5 (CD.E) D Chapman 5-9-6 (Ber) ... A College 4 4 080- MAGIC RARBOW 145 (D.F.S) M 8el 4-9-5 ... M Feator 3 5 1113 NYSTAL MAX 5 (CD.F.T MBIS 8-9-2 ... I, Carles 5 6 140- MICHESH TWO 167 (D.S.) P Minchell 3-8-6 6 Carter 2 5-2 Makamata, 3-1 Sosted, 8-2 Levellet, Rystaf Max, 7-1 Michigh Two, 8-1 Magic Barrioux

4.20 FAUCETS SPEETY CLASSIC CLASSIFIED

10-11 Storm Cat, 7-4 Speedy Classic, 6-1 Mister Tocky, 14-1 Rismion.

4.50 RLACKBERRY HANGICAP (3-Y-0: £3,556: 1m 2f) (4) 5-4 Ward Sir. 11-4 Hormez, 3-1 Pacific Alliance, 13-2 Co Ex Be

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINESS: D discholis, T3 winners local 65 content, 20,0%, 8 Hills, 15 feen 76, 19,7%, B Armstrong, 15 horts 77, 19,5%, D Chaptens, 24 feen 125, 19,2%, M Sell, 17 feen 98, 17,3%; M Johnston, 49 feen 284, 15,9%. JOCKSYS: D McKenow, 29 winners from 166 rides, 17.5%, A Collinas, 20 from 122, 16.3%, R Cookyane, 57 from 356, 16.0%, J Farming, 9 from 54, 14.1%, A Estiny, 4 from 29, 13.8%, G Carter, 29 from 218, 13.2%.

☐ Candy Morris has her last rides in public at Lingfield this afternoon. Morris said: "I've had a good run but I just feel my chances might be rather limited this season."

YESTERDAY'S

Chepstow

21:20, 21:30 DF: 21:80, CSF: 23:84 4.20 (3m ch) 1, Spankling Cone (N Wilsonson, 4-1); 2, Majors Legacy (3-1 lav); 3, Orswell Lad (7-1), 9 ran, 11-1, 161. Miss Venetis Williams, Total: £3,70; £2.10, £1.40, £1.90, DF: £9.20, CSF: £15.70. Tricest: £73.98.

4.55 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Executive Deci-ation (J Tizzard, 10-1); 2, The Franch Fuzz (100-1); 3, Picket Pisco (10-11 fay), 8 an. 4, 3, P. Nicholls, Tote: £7.36, £2.70, £7.40, DF. £48.90. CSF: £212.36, Quadrott £35.20.

Wolverhampton

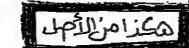
2.19 (Im 100yd) 1, Prairie Wolf (M Fer-ton, 6-1): 2, Rouge (15-8 tev): 3, Gevity (7-1). 12 ran, NF: Danka, 2'si, 7l, M Bell. Tota: £12.70; £4.10, £1.10, £2.60. DF. £23.50. CSF: £18.81. 2.40 (7) 1, Rours Pet (P Fitzsimons, 7-1); 2, Dryad (10-1); 3, Eite Hope (6-4 tay), 8 ran. 14, 214, R Hannon, Tote: 29.00, 22.70, 52.10, £1.10 (DF £72.00, CSF, £71.72. 2.10 (7) 1, Physic Officer (7 Strake, evens fav); 2, Westmen's Weigh (11-2); 3, Italian Symphony (20-1), 6 ran, 5l, 2'4. Sir Merk Prescott, 10ez. 5l, 70; E1.10, E3.70. DF: 23.30. CSF: £7.39

11.00 CSF, E1896 4.10 (St) 1, Sounds Lucky (C Carver, 13-2); 2, Legal Venture (S-1); 3, Weetran (S-1), Dolly Day Drawn (Sh) 100-90 fev. 12; ran NR: Another Lover SI, 14, N Litimoden Tote: £7-30, £1.70, £2.50, £2.10, DF, £11.90, CSF, £39.95. Tricast £201.84. EATI-94.
4.45 (7) 1. Abtsel (P McCabe, 7-1), 2. C-Harry (7-4); 3, Amington Girl (25-1). Tro-jan Hero (4th) evens fav. 8 ran. Nk. 144. Mrs N Maccaley Tone £10.40, £3.00. £1.30, £7.70 DF, £14.70. CSF, £20.50.

5.15 (1m 4) 1, Law Dencer (Lsa Hacket, 3-1); 2, Jab (7-2), 3, Nouten (6-1) Colonal Custer (5n) 5-4 (av. 9 ran. 5, 3-4) T Mills. Tote: 64-40; 53-20, 61-30, 62-60. DF 51:360. Tote Tribects. 5235-30. CSF: 217-25. Tricest. 283.72. Jackpot: not won (pool of £51,777.63 carried forward to Ludlow today).

Placepot: £31.70. Quadpot: £16.10. ☐ Wetherby yesterday was abandoned due to waterlogging. There are no reported problems at today's three meetings.





LTA turns to France for fresh impetus last year and at the Australian Open junior two months



Hagelauer takés a seat on Wimbledon's Centre Court where he hopes to inspire young Britons to perform

here are two ways of looking at this: Patrice Hagelauer has either grasped the poisoned chalice with both hands or he has accepted the easiest job in tennis. As of yesterday, he is the performance director of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), responsible for all national training. both men and women, senior

Take Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski out of the reckoning - and they have long since left the LTA behind there remains a large group of distinctly average players who have got about as far on the rankings ladder as they are likely to.

If they do not perform the performance director does not have much to do and if Hagelauer, a 51-year-old Frenchman, is looking to find

es, has been ruled out of the

international fixture against Italy at Murrayfield on Satur-day after suffering an arm

injury during squad training

Armstrong's place will be taken by lain Fairley, the un-

capped Edinburgh Reivers and Kelso scrum half, with the

captaincy taken by Eric Peters, the Bath No 8, who will lead

his country for the first time.

Armstrong was examined by Scottish Rugby Union doc-

tors yesterday morning, who

diagnosed soft tissue damage

to his left arm. "It's what you

might classify as a sprained

elbow," Arthur Hastie, the

Scotland manager - who an-

nounced an otherwise un-

changed team — said. "It's not

as serious as we first thought

and there's every hope that

Gary will be up and running in time for the next match,

Fairley, 25, sat on the re-

against (reland."

on Tuesday.

and develop players who can reach the standard of Henman and Rusedski, he has his work cut out. The effect of the two top

men on British tennis has been startling. Public interest grows with every title Henman and Rusedski win and every final they reach. More youngsters are keen to take up the game and, rather than . iasm being confined to the two weeks of Wimbledon. it now last throughout the year, with results in tournaments from Tashkent to

The latest world rankings show Henman at No 7 and Rusedski three places behind him. Next on the list is Chris Wilkinson, at No 186. Wilkinson is a decent chap who has had his moments at Wimbledon- he has reached the third round four times - but

Alix Ramsay says the man charged with improving British tennis

has little talent with which to work

Pullin (144), Louise Latimer

(158) and Karen Cross (167). It

Names who may be worth watching in the future are few and far between. Lee

Childs, a big lad with a pow-

erful service, as yet has no senior world ranking but has

dipped his toe in the water and has won a 16-and-under international title in France.

Among the girls, Hannah Collin, from Surrey, is still

the best bet. Now 17 and in

her first full year on the cir-cuit, she reached the quarter-finals at junior Wimbledon

makes depressing reading.

he is 29, married with a baby and he knows his limitations. A couple of years ago he did not even bother to try to qualify for the US Open, preferring to play a Challenger event on home soil. He saved money by refusing to make a trip that probably would have been futile.

Further down the list, much further, we find Martin Lee, 21, once the top junior in the world, but now struggling with a ranking of No 351. Arvind Parmer, who will be 21 later this month. lingers at No 456.

Among the women, the picture is just as bleak. Sam

ago. Then again, at the same age, Martina Hingis had already won three grand slam titles and become world There can be no doubt that Smith, 27 is ranked No 60 and she is followed by Julie

Hagelauer knows his stuff. He has spent most of his working life involved with the French tennis federation and is leaving an important post in France, as National Sports Director in charge of the elite level of men's tennis.

Starting out as national coach, he progressed to director of men's tennis and was the personal coach to Guy Forget, Henri Leconte and Yannick Noah. He was coach to the Davis Cup team for 16 years and it is worth recalling that, in the 1990s, France has won the cup twice.

There are a lot of possibili-

many British youngsters competing well in Europe," Hagelauer said. I believe I can add my experience to help bring the best out of them." He will lead the LTA national training team which includes Jeremy Bates, as men's tennis director, Mark Cox, who is the director of the LTA/Rover junior tennis iniand Keith tiative -Wooldridge, the women's ten-

nis manager.
How Hagelaner copes
with the structure of the LTA
and the machinations within its various departments and committees remains to be seen. He has certainly taken on a daunting challenge for there is so far precious little to show for all the Wimbledon profits that have been poured back into the game in this

RUGBY UNION

France look for progress from unchanged team

By Dayid Hands, rugby correspondent, and Alasdair Reid

FRANCE will go into their second weekend of the Five Nations Championship with an unchanged team, but wary of their relapse a year ago. Exultant after wins over England and Scotland, they nearly came unstuck against ireland in Paris and they do not intend to suffer a similar struggle against Wales at the Stade de France on Saturday.

Their only concern is Olivier Magne, the flanker, who in-jured a foot playing for Brive last week. If he is forced to withdraw, Marc Raynaud, the uncapped Narbonne captain, will play, but the France management is optimistic that Magne will be ready to win his twentieth cap. It has already been reassured that Franck Comba, the centre injured at the weekend playing for Stade Français, will be

fit to start. Amendments to the replacements restore David Aucagne and introduce David Auradou, the Stade Français lock. to the championship in which

their title with a wobbly 10-9 win over Ireland. "We are expecting something different to Dublin this time," Jo Maso, the manager, said. "Conditions were very difficult there. Now I hope we can play to our

"We decided it would not have been right to take one or two of the players away from the group which battled so hard against Ireland. This season especially we want to prove that our game is different, that we can offer a show and lift our performance, because we are the reigning

John Davies, who moved the Swansea prop, has a scep-tic hand and, in the absence of the injured David Young, Dav-

castle Falcons scrum half, who has captained Scotland in their two Five Nations match-France began the defence of

champions of Europe."

from Richmond to Llanelli earlier this year, returns to the Wales squad after the withdrawal of Chris Anthony from the replacements. Anthony, les offers experienced back-un. Gary Armstrong, the New-

Replacements: S L. Lüngstaff (Glasgow Caledonians), C M Chairment (Edinburgh Revers), G G Burns (Edinburgh Revers), A C Countney (Northampton), A I Reed (Wasps), D I W Hilton (Beth), S J Brother-stone (Edinburgh Revers).

placements' bench during Scotland's matches against Wales and England. He has represented Scotland at scrum half at under-18, under-21 and A levels. Versatile enough to have been used by Kelso as a centre as well as at half back, he was Metcalite (Glasgow Caledoniure); C.A. Mortray (Edinburgh Revers), A.V. Talk (Edinburgh Revers), A. Luslie (Sanniu), K.M. Logan (Wespa), G.F. of Townsmod (Brite), I.T. Falkley (Edinburgh Revers); T.J. Saakh (Glasgow Caledoniura), A.F. Burnell (London Scottish), A. Maurray (Bedlord), S.B. Grisses (Glasgow Caledoniura), P. Walton (Navcasite Falcona), M. D. Lestie (Edinburgh Revers), E.W. Peters (Gath).

Baylescarparty S.J. Constabil (Glasgow) first brought into the international squad for the tour to Australia last summer, when he was twice brought on as a replacement against provin-

cial opposition.

"lain is very similar to Gary in his style of play." Jim Telfer, the Scotland coach, said. "He has a very quick break, a high work-rate, he's a good tackler and he kicks well."



Peters, left, who will captain Scotland for the first time against Italy, and Fairley had plenty to smile about yesterday

Barbarians..... By MARK BALDWIN

NINE Barbarians tries deco-

rated their 76th meeting with the East Midlands in a fixture which, year by year, offers ever more nostalgia but correspondingly less relevance to the modern came. Once an unofficial England

trial, the Mobbs Memorial match was watched by a small crowd at Northampton and not even the presence of more than a hundred chattering schoolchildren could lift a muted atmosphere. The match is now used as a vehicle for junior rugby funding. Scot-tish Amicable, the sponsors of Barbarians, donated £300 for every Barbarians' try - mean-ing a total of £2,700 was

Wainwright, the Rob former Scotland captain, led from the front in a Barbarians performance that also includ-

Hollow victory for Barbarians

ed eye-catching performances from Mike Friday, the speedy. Wasps scrum-half, and Greg Kacala, the Cardiff No 8. Wainwright in fact, began the scoring and Kacala's surge across halfway produced a gap for Friday to

Falcons fail to pay up

WIGAN, the Super League champions, are threatening court action on Newcastle Falcons, their rugby union counterparts, after the latest payment in the Valaiga Tuigamala transfer fee failed to arrive on time yesterday.

We are being messed about." Peter Norbury, the Wigan chairman, said. Falcons still owe more than half

sprint dear for the second Barbarians try. East Midlands, based on

the young talent at the North-ampton club, reacted spiritedly with tries from David Dantiacq and a penalty try awarded when the Barbarians failed

the £750,000 fee for Valaiga Tuigamala, who switched codes two years ago.

Kevin Yates, the Bath prop. who served a six-month suspension last year for biting another player's ear, appears before the Rugby Football Union disciplinary panel today charged with stamping on the head of Paul Volley, of Wasps, during a match last month.

to retreat ten yards for a tap penalty. However, the final score would have been even more conclusive had Luis Cr-iscoolo, the Coventy fly-half, brought his kicking boots.

SCORMUS SEDURNICE: (East Middends ling: 0-5, 0-10, 7-10, 14-10, 14-15 ftell-ling), 14-22, 14-27, 14-34, 14-39, 19-39, 19-46, 19-51.

PAST MEDIANDS (Northempton unless stated): J Wilmer frept M Jones, 4 minus; J Slaves, N Tucket, D Desti-

Harmison returns

Imperial repeat winning formula

BY MICHAEL AYUVEN

MEDICAL students are notorious for playing as hard as they are obliged to work, but those that congregated at Old Deer Park yesterday were clearly intent on doing none of the latter. So play hard they did, both on and off the field. It was a day for Imperial Medics to celebrate, for, as

wester cts

the least

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ever dri

they did last year, they beat Guy's, King's and St Thomas' (GKT) in the final of the United Hospitals Challenge Cup, sponsored by the Medical Sickness Society, a tournament that remains the oldest in

world rugby.
Trailing 16-0 at the break, a spirited comeback saw GKT threaten to snatch what would have been an unlikely victory. A smart counter-attack saw Eddie Belm score a try and then further pressure resulted in a penalty try for GKT. Yet it was not enough. Imperial's lead at half-time proved to be too great, an advantage established through an early try from James Platt, supplemented by three penalties and a conversion from Iain Macleod. A late, weil-taken try from Alistair Morris, a replacement wing, ended the GKT rally.

SCORIENS: Imperiate Triess Platt (17min), Monts (78) Conversions Macleod. Penalty poster Macleod 3 (5.34.40) GKT: Triess Behn, 68) penalty by (76). Conversions Davios.
SCORING SEQUENCE (Imperial first) 3-0, 10-0, 13-0, 16-0 (half-time), 18-5, 18-5, 18-12, 21-12.

3-0, 10-4, 13-0, 16-0 (part-ama), 18-5, 16-12, 21-12, 1889-ERIAL I Maclacot, E Wison (rep: A Morrie, 72min), M Lemyman, O Kayes, J Plats, S Rojens, P Thilarechelon (pop: M Jackson, 50); B Carpenter, A Majed (rep: J Hughes, 77), J Strading, B Spieghberg (rep: I Mahasharwan, 67), B O'Dunuga (rep: M Iramaling, 77), B Casear, O'Watens (red: M Grant, 55), S Nesqueye.
GKT: H Pynn (rep: E Behn, 40); R Etok, T Valzeboer, A Bunting (rep: N Gothers, 40), U Besowa: N Davise, P Morgan; D Baledseyen (rep: R Cirton, 34), M Edmondson, J Stacey, B Scholiekt, B Thorpe, C Jacks, P Davis, B Wood.

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Twose and Astle defy South Africa

ROGER TWOSE and Nath-an Asie belped New Zealand to a draw on the final day of the first Test against South Africa at Eden Park yesterday. Both men scored stubborn half-centuries as the home side, needing 269 to make South Africa bat again, finished their second innings on 244 for three wickets.

New Zealand resumed on the final morning at 4-0. With Twose, who made 65, batting for four hours and Astle, who finished undefeated on 69. spending three hours at the crease, the borne side averted

defeat easily.
"A wicket like this doesn't do the game any favours, does it?" Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach, said. "Cricket is competing for crowds. We need to entertain. The second Test begins in Christchurch on March Il.

for final challenge FROM the start of their winter tour, the England A team had intended to use their last match as a grand finale for the

players involved. Form and circumstance have dictated that the side for that five-day game, which starts today at New-lands, picks itself, but the President's XI should still provide the stiffest opposition encountered in either South Africa and Zimbabwe.

For that reason, it was decided to rest Steve Harmison for the four-day game against Gauteng, preferring instead that he remain fit and sharp for this concluding match.

With Melvyn Betts unfit and both Paul Hutchison and Jason Lewry having returned to England, there has been a noted reliance on Darren Thomas and Paul Franks. For all that. and despite the apparent comfort of their ten-wicket win over Gauteng, the England A

From Thrasy Petropoulos

in Cape Town pace bowling at the Wander-

ers lacked an edge that only Harmison can offer. Franks makes way for him. With the two first-class victories here brought about with telling contributions from the

spinners, both Graeme Swann and Dean Cosker will play. The President's XI side includes the best of the players not with South Africa in New Zealand and those not involved in the final of the domestic first-class competition between Border and Western

Province. ENGLAND A: M P Vaughen (captain), D L Meddy, M B Loye, M G N Windows, A Filint-off, V S Solenté, G P Swann, C M W Read, D A Coster, S J Harmagn, S D Thomes

Lanka face difficult task

SRI LANKA, missing six key players through injuries, face a tough task against Pakistan today in their last chance to

qualify for the Asian Test-cricket championship final.
Pakistan, with 17 points, have already qualified after beating India by 46 runs in Calcutta. Sri Lanka have four points against India's ten af-ter the two teams drew in Colombo last week.

We are definitely underdogs for the game," said Hashan Tillekerame, who will make his debut as Sri Lanka captain.

The six out with injuries are Arjuna Ranatunga, Aravinda De Silva, Chaminda Vaas. Sanath Jayasuriya, Muttiah Muralitharan and Nuwan

Pakistan will be without Shoaib Akhtar, the pace bowl-

Under-19s suffer familiar failures

ENGLAND Under-19 return home today after a rour of missed opportunities in New Zealand. The four-day series was drawn and the one-day rubber lost, though England mock the first game in both

cases. The difference between the two sides was that, after the first Test, when New Zealand got an opportunity, they didn't let it slip," Mike Gatting, the England selector who was managing his first under-19 tour, said.

Gatting cites a loss in concentration by the players and believes they tended to adopt right-hand batsman from War-

FROM JOHN STERN IN AUCKLAND too casual an approach after working themselves into posihis maturity at the crease was exceptional. Dayle Hadlee, the New Zealand Under-19 coach,

tions of strength. We had chances to make the kill in describes him as "the best both the one-day series and 16-year-old I've ever seen". the Tests," Gatting said. Bell's innings of 91 in the "The things that happened first four-day international, on this tour mirror what goes when he never looked like on with the senior side as well. being dismissed, and his They can win a one-day game hundred in the third four-day

brilliantly and then throw one game were both attractive, fruent innings.
Michael Gough, the cap-There have been positive signs over the past seven weeks, however. Ian Bell, the

tain, achieved what he set out to do as a batsman, scoring a century and a fifty, but his capwickshire, is still at school, but taincy was less impressive.

Gatting described it as "a little inflexible" and that he "let it drift at times". However, as with every other aspect of an under-19 tour, he stresses that it is important for things to be left in their own hands because that is the only way they will learn".

The two spinners, particularly Graeme Bridge, the Durham slow left-armer, also had good tours, Bridge finishing as England's leading wicket taker in the four-day series. Richard Dawson, the Yorkshire off-spinner, made useful runs. batting doggedly in difficult

MOTOR RACING

Dennis adds fuel to rival claims

FROM KEVIN EASON IN MELBOURNE

Sometimes.

the team takes

precedence

over drivers'

FOR rivals who thought they would at least be within touching distance of the Formula One world champions this season, there was a word of warning yesterday. Ron Dennis, McLaren's team principal, was confronted with pre-season test statistics for the first race of the season that seemed to show his team had lost the vast superiority it enjoyed last year when his Silver Arrows shot into the distance, not just taking the first two places, but

impetus

Imperial

repeat

Winning

formula

lapping the entire field.

Dennis, however, exuded quiet confidence as he disclosed that his McLarens will have plenty left in their tank, literally, for the Australian Grand Prix on Sunday. Though

he did not directly accuse his rivals of showboating through the long test sessions, he did indicate that a single spectacular lap time did not necessarily a champion make,

While other teams were flying with near-empty tanks to post lap times that would grab headlines and please sponsors, McLaren-Mercedes were plodding through the reliabili-

ty and efficiency tests that were hallmarks of their world championship triumph last season. Engi-neers persisted in running cars with at least half-full

fuel tanks to simulate the race that faces them this weekend and put no effort into trying to beat the competition at test sessions that win no points towards the championship. Discipline was the word Dennis

used to describe his team's efforts, warning that the psychological warfare of other teams, notably Ferrari, were not for him. "A grand prix car only runs with low fuel three times in-a race weekend, once in qualifying, once before the fuel stop and at the end of the race," he said.

"We have concentrated on getting everything right for the conditions we will face. What other teams do is:

up to them, but we can accurately predict from our computer simulations that we were capable of going much faster. So we are confident about the race and what we are up against this season to try to win the World championship again."
In fact, if the McLarens are as dev-

astatingly quick as last year, Australians will be pinching themselves, such will be the sense of déja vu Whether that will extend to the twin McLarens of David Coulthard and Mika Hakkinen swapping places. as they find last year on team orders, remains to be seen. Denrus is certainly not worried about warnings here that the crowd will not be pleased to see a similar stage-man-

aged finish, manufactured by Coulthard moving over in allow Hakkinen his first victory of the year, on the way to the championship; nor will rules banning team orders have any bearing. Despite Hakkinen

being world champion, the drivers will get equal treatment and equal cars and it will be up to them to race unless the demands of the team prevail, as they did ast year here. Dennis said: "If we found ourselves with a performance advantage, we would use that ad-

vantage to win the race. It is for the drivers to go out and race, but there are times when the team has to take precedence over the drivers.

"Those times are few and far between and last year was exceptional. There have been team orders as long as I can remember in motor racing and it has been like that since I took control of McLaren in the early Eighties, and it will always be so."

Dennis does not mind which driv-er gets the upper hand, so long as one of them does. They are equal in the eyes of the team and they can both race. Now ler's get on with the season and see what happens," he



Wardrop is looking beyond the ranks of Formula Ford racing to a place alongside the big names of the grand prix circuit

rand prix wheels are Wardrop pursues about to turn again and this Sunday, in Melwill give Formula One followers the chance to reacquaint themselves with all the usual suspects. Schumacher, Hakkinen, Hill, Coulthard and the rest will weave grand ambition their plot lines en route to the

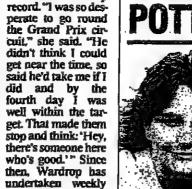
climax in Japan next October, but could manoeuvre while they race, would-be rivals her Formula Ford wait and watch in the wings. car close to the lap Lucy Wardrop may be the most unlikely Formula One aspirant, but she is among them nonetheless. Although few women reach the start line of what is the highest level in motor sport and none have made a significant, lasting impression, this Sussex teenager, the 1999 Silverstone winter series singleseater champion, is making her

Wardrop may be a slight figure, but she believes that she was born to be a racing driver and her sparky ambition is persuasive. "I don't want anything else," she said. Everything I have goes into racing because it's my dream and I know I can achieve it.

intentions clear.

The first evidence of that came at the end of last year when Wardrop took an intensive course at Silver stone. "Anyone can do that," she said. "You go along, pay your moncy and spend a week thrashing around in different cars. It gave me experience and confidence.

drive on the edge." She also won a first-day bet with It came as no shock when Wara senior instructor that, before the drop became the first female to win



personal tuition at

Chris Ward.

Northampton-

of testing and learnt to consistently

but Wardrop is unswerving about her suitability to take the wheel. Nevertheless, some observers remain sceptical "I've been able to speak to the guys who were in racing and find out what I've got to do," she said. They've been brilliant and all through the winter I've done loads

that women can be strong enough to make the step up in power and class, David Coulthard among them. The Scot has suggested that drivers from the distaff side were unlikely to be mentally tough enough, a view with which not surprisingly.

at Silverstone, She

took pole position in

each of the three win-

ter series champion-

ship races, won two of them and clocked

the fastest lap time in

all three. Last Satur-

day, in pre-race test-

ing, the 19-year-old

broke the lap record

for the Silverstone

Stowe circuit, which had stood at 41.72sec.

la Ford cars that she

drives may be some

way off the power and polish of the For-

mula One machines,

The 1600cc Formu-

disagrees strongly. "If that's his view, I'm just going to have to prove him wrong," she said. The road so far has not been with-

out its bumps. Wardrop ignored parental pressure by choosing not to go to university and raised the £2,500 for her week's course at Silverstone by working as a wait-ress and child-minding. "I worked hard to get that money and I wanted to prove to my parents that I really could do this," she said. "Initially, they told me racing is an expensive game and if I wanted it, I'd have to do it myself."

Now, though, her commitment and talent proven, there has been a change of heart. "They've just said that they'll fund me for this season in the 1800cc Formula Ford champi-onship," she said. "We've got a budget of £20,000 and we're trying to attract outside sponsors so that I can do testing at other circuits too."

Racing begins in March and con-cludes in November, with Wardrop's father, Murray, offering day-to-day support. "Dad bought me a motorbike when I was 7 and taught me to drive at 9," she said. "1 have always loved speed and he let me enter go-karting competitions when I was 12, so I don't think he's surprised that the bug has bitten." Naturally, she will be watching

her television to see the Formula One season begin in Australia. As always, she expects her eye to be drawn to Michael Schumacher. Why? "Because he's the best drivSNOOKER

O'Sullivan suffers surprise defeat

FROM PHIL YATES

WITH the notable exception of Ronnie O'Sullivan, who was surprisingly beaten 5-4 by Darren Morgan, it was a day of escapology for a number of the game's luminaries in the first round of the Thailand Masters at the Ambassador Hotel here.

O'Sullivan recovered from 4-1 in arrears to force a deciding frame, but Morgan managed to retain sufficient composure to pot a difficult blue down the side cushion for victory. He will meet Nigel Bond in the last 16.

Such a high-profile victory was a belated reward for Morgan, who negotiated the final qualifying round of the event in Plymouth last summer while still employing crutches after fracturing hi hip in a car accident on the M4

only two months earlier.
This makes all the pain I went through down there well worthwhile." Morgan, whose overall form has improved markedly since he began receiving coaching from Terry Griffiths, his fellow Welshman and the former world champion, said.

Stephen Hendry, John Parrott and Alan McManus all scraped into the second round. Hendry edged Paul Davies, who missed a straightforward blue in the decider, 5-4 while McManus railied from 4-2 down to beat Matthew Stevens by the same scoreline.

However, Parrott was re-

sponsible for the greatest

escape when he defeated Dave

Harold, winner of the tourna-ment in 1993, 5-4 after requiring three snookers with three reds remaining in the closing frame. Parrott, who had led 4-1, obtained two snookers, the second of which yielded a free ball. He cleared to blue and, on his next scoring visit. deposited pink and black. "I feel sorry for Dave. He deserved to win," Parrott said. John Higgins expended far less nervous energy on the way to beating Ian McCulloch 5-2. Higgins, the world No I, compiled breaks of 77, 75, 83 and 61 during an encouraging performance.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT The last article in this mini-series on Paul Soloway is a fine

example of partnership co-operation. A good player is always on the look-out for opportunities to save his partner from error - even when he is playing with Bob Hamman, the world number one. Today's deal comes from the US Trials.

Dealer East	E-W game	Teams
♣ A ♡ Q10863 ◇ 10973 ♣ AQ9	W E O	642 KJ9754 52 K2

Where Soloway and Hamman were sitting East-West, Lew Stansby opened Four Spades with the South

cards, and played there.
On a heart lead, declarer won in hand and naturally enough hastened to cash out the diamonds to discard clubs. Soloway, East, ruffed the third diamond, and was overruffed. Now declarer led a low trump from his hand. Hamman could not withhold his ace of spades even if he had wanted to, and now had to find the killing defence.

Hamman saw the necessity of shifting to a club, but made the inferior play of the ace of clubs rather than a low club. Not to worry, Soloway could also see that three club tricks were needed to beat the contract and that if he played low on the ace he would have to win the second round with the king. He would not be able to stop declarer crossing to dummy with the nine of

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: six of hearts. spades to cash all the diamonds. Accordingly, Soloway unblocked the king under Hamman's ace. It was now a simple matter for Hamman to cash the queen of clubs and give Soloway a club ruff to beat the contract.

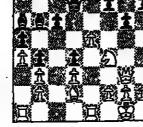
The game was allowed to make at the other table in this match when in this position West played a passive diamond, and declarer was able to discard two clubs on dummy's diamonds.

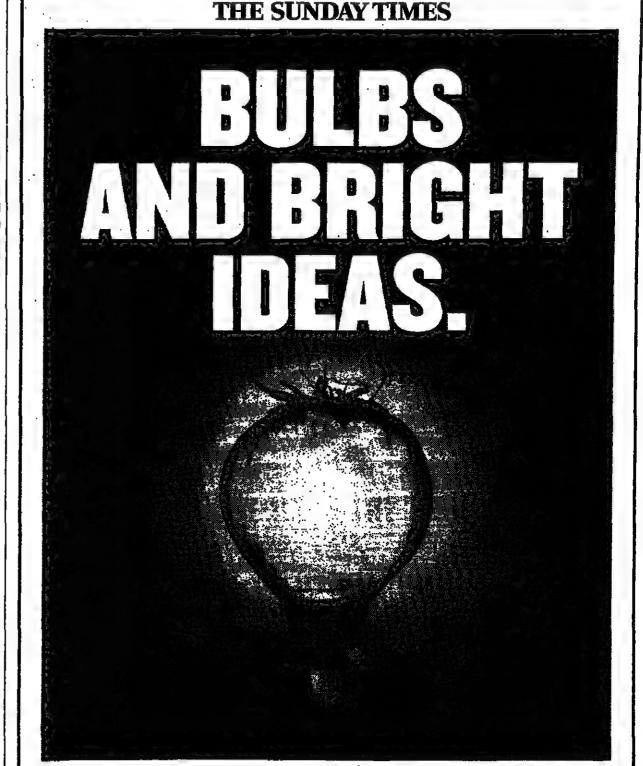
In another match West was defending Five Spades. after East had pre-empted in hearts. Declarer did the best he could after a heart lead, when he led a low trump out of his hand at once. West took his ace of spades and, reasonably enough, cashed the ace of clubs. When his partner played the two he read it as discouraging and tried to give his partner a diamond ruff, so Five Spades

By Raymond Keene SPUMONI a. lee cream b. Surfing waves . .

34 Rd1 35 Be1

The juxtaposition of the How did he continue? Solution on page 50





This Sunday, 50 ways to effortlessly transform your garden. See the two part Gardening special starting in this week's Style.

THE SUNDAY TIMES: 15 THE SUNDAY PAPERS

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o. A wig c. A silver bar LUAMAA

a. Blood mone)

SHEITEL

a. An edible gourd

c. Ribbon pasta WUWEI a Laissez-faire b. Martial arts

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

c. A pottery period b. Ritual dancing Answers on page 50 c. A kind of socialism

KEENE on CHESS

39 Bd2 40 Nd7

White resigns

Diagram of final position

White: Veselin Topalov

Linares 1999

Black: Vladimir Kramnik

Petroff Defence

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT Kasparov ahead

World champion Garry Kasparov has extended his lead in the elite tournament at Linares in Spain. In round eight he was the sole winner, whilst all his rivals were drawing. Nevertheless, as todays game between Topalov and Kramnik demonstrates, even the draws have been fiercely contested. Topalov attempted to breathe new life into the ancient Cochrane Gambit, but

could not make real headway. White: Peter Svidler Black: Garry Kasparov Linares 1999 Sicilian Defence

Bxc6 Nc3 9 0-0-0 10 Rhe1 11 Kb1 12 Bh4 13 Bg3 14 e5 15 Nxe4 16 Qw8 17 Nd4 18 C3 19 Kc2 20 Rxe4 21 Re3 22 Ne2

Draw agreed

WINNING MOVE

White to play. This position is from the game Movsesian -Lalic, Elista 1998.

white queen and the black king along the h2-b8 diagonal created the possibility for a quick tactical win for White.

Gascoigne, the uncontrollable genius

Brian Glanville, Britain's best-known football writer, is celebrating 50 years as a sports journalist with a new book, Football Memories. Here he looks at the uneasy relationship between Paul Gascoigne and successive England managers

aul Gascoigne was the new reality in the England team by the time of Italia 90. Two years earlier. when England had played ineptly in the European championship finals in West Germany, and Bobby Robson had seemed in a state of strange confusion, my colleagues had derided me when I said I thought Gascoigne should have

been chosen. By 1990 his claims were unanswerable, though Robson had giv-en him a peculiarly hard time, ban-ishing him to the left wing in B internationals, blaming him publicly and harshly for once giving the ball away and announcing before a friendly against the Czechs at Wembley before the World Cup that this was virtually Gascoigne's last chance. This put enormous pressure on Gascoigne, who seemed in a frenzy in the tunnel before the teams took the field, but who proceeded to play superbly.

Emerging from what might not unkindly be described as a "problem" family in the North East — it was said that he preferred to sleep in Newcastle United's boys' hostel rather than go home for the night - his talent was nevertheless phenomenal. No English player of his generation had the supreme skills, the glorious playmaking ability. the sheer originality, of Gascoigne, a born inside-forward in the classical sense.

That he was immature, occasionally violent, kept doubtful company and was intensely self-destructive was undeniable. One rememhered what Andre Gide said, when asked who was the greatest French poet: "Victor Hugo, alas".

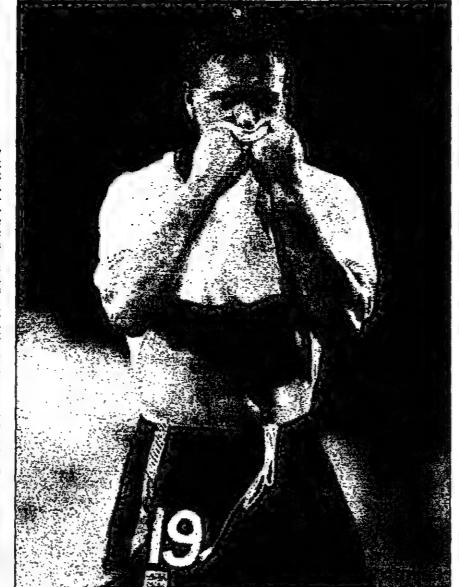
Bobby Robson called Gascoigne "daft as a brush" and that was giving him all the best of it. He came south to Spurs, and continued his remarkable career, until the second of two crazy challenges in the 1991 FA Cup Final at Wembley against Nottingham Forest put him out of the game for a year. Out he would later go again when, in a training match with Lazio, the Roman club he next joined, he suicidally tried to tackle a young reserve - as he was then - Nesta, as the boy shot; and he suffered a broken

leg in consequence.

When Gazza decided to join Lazio, I observed, "Wrong city, wrong player, wrong club", and so it proved, though he didn't forgive me, greeting me when I visited Lazio's training ground with a mouthful of abuse. No rare event in his saga. But the Lazio fans adored him: his fellow players liked him; and though his spell in Rome ended in anticlimax, there was a period when he was the idol of the crowd.

His exceptional skills, his astonishing ability to "photograph" the field and react with the unexpected pass as soon as the ball came to him, were paramount in England reaching the semi-final of Italia 90 when, as we know, he broke down in tears after being booked, aware that he would miss the final, if England reached it. Their path to the semi-finals was an odd one. They began in Cagliari with a draw so dull that an Italian paper headed its report, NO FOOTBALL PLEASE, WE'RE BRITISH.

Bobby Rohson had long been ad-amant that he would never play with a sweeper defence, which he thought alien to English players, and he unquestionably had a point. Yet when England met Hol-land in Cagliari, a sweeper was what they employed, and they managed to draw. In the quarter-final against against Cameroon in Naples, Cameroon seemed likely to win till Robson gave up the sweeper formation and closemarked Roger Milla with little Paul Parker. England won, and





Pick of the crop: Gascoigne distraught after being booked in the World Cup semi-final in 1990 and, right, during his comeback for Lazio in 1995 after breaking a leg

shine, Robson told a press conference, "A flat back four saved us".

Graham Taylor's appointment to the England managership in 1990 never made a shred of sense. He began clumsity, dropping Paul Gascoigne - how history repeats itselft - from the early game against Ireland in Dublin. The initial rationale was that Ireland's

next day on a hotel terrace outside long-ball game would cut out the Salerno, bathed in brilliant sunza with the still smaller Gordon Cowans made no sense at all. Ex post facto. Taylor hinted that Gascoigne's psychological condition made it unwise to play him, but that made scant sense, too.

There had been much controversy just before the 1998 World Cup tournament started when Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, once

such a sublimely talented, creative player himself, sent Paul Gascoigne home from training the very day after praising his physical condition. Whether or not the decision was right - and Gas-coigne had certainly been indulging himself excessively — to do it in such a way was purely Pavlovian. Gascoigne, the eternal adoles-

cent with the superb football

the best of times, and such alternating stimuli could have had the most dire results: Fortunately, he seemed to manage the disaster well. This was illusory.

On the field he may well have been a player of unusual intelligence, but, as we know, a football brain is sui generis. It does not preclude intellect outside the field of play, any more than an intellectual need necessarily be an unintelli-

our attacking play has pleased

only five months and although

we should have won more

games and perhaps be six points better off, we are mak-

ing steady progress. We mus-in't be greedy. We're at Wem-

bley in one compention and in

For Southampton, who lie

next to bottom in the Premier-

ship, the defeat heaped further doubts on their ability to avoid

relegation. They showed little

of the resilience shown in the

2-1 loss against Manchester United at Old Trafford on Sat-

urday. "I'm annoyed because

my players seem to go from

one extreme to another." Dav-

id Jones, the Southampton

"Sometimes, I don't know what I'm going to get from them. Some of our defending

against Sours was schoolboy stuff and you can't get away with that at any level, never

mind in the Premiership. We

practise things all week but

then don't go out and do them

In the Nationwide League

first division; Ipswich Town

moved into second place

behind Sunderland with a 3-2

win against Watford at Port-

man Road. However, the victo-

fell to the ground seven minutes later, still feeling the effects of an earlier challenge

from Micah Hyde. He was

taken from the pitch and it was later diagnosed that he

had cracked the fibula in his

left leg. He is likely to be on the

Bolton Wanderers slipped

to their second successive

defeat when losing 3-2 against

Huddersfield Town at the McAlpine Stadium. "People

will say our bubble has burst

but I don't believe that," Colin

Todd, the Bolton manager,

said. "I've every confidence in my players to pick themselves

sidelines for six weeks.

manager, said.

in the matches."

a quarter-final of another."

People forget I've been here

gent footballer. But the football brain is essentially a thing of instinct, the reductio ad absurdum being a player such as Paul Gascoigne, who is wonderfully inventive, aware and original on the field, but displays few of these qualities off the pitch.

Extracted from Football
Memories by Brian Glanville,
published by Virgin Publishing

FOOYBALL IN BRIEF

Two leading football figures have urged Graeme Le Saux and Robbie Fowler to resolve their differences and prevent the bad feeling between the two players becoming a long-term feud.

David Mellor, of the Government Task Force, who was at the Chelsea-Liverpool game in which Le Saux elbowed Fowler in the head after being taunted by the Liverpool striker, said: "They should publicly make up. The last time there was spat between two leading players - lan Wright and Peter Schmeichel - it was allowed to drag on." Gordon Taylor, chief

executive of the Professional Footballers Association, claimed that Fowler had stepped over the bounds of taste in taunting Le Saux.

Ugo Ehigou, the Aston
Villa central defender, is optimistic he will be able to return to action late next month after fracturing his eye socket in two places in an accidental clash with Alan Shearer, the England and Newcastle United forward

Ehiogu will undergo a second operation tomorrow but has been told he should be able to play again in six weeks' time providing there are no complications. 📕 Mark Beeney, the Leeds United reserve goalkeeper, has been forced to retire following an Achilles injury Achilles in a reserve game earlier this season and although he underwent surgery the renained injury became infected and snapped

Beeney, who joined Leeds from Brighton in 1993 and has made 35 first-team appearances, has been told it will not be strong enough for him to resume playing.

I Jermaine Pennant, who caused a sensation when transferred from Notts County to Arsenal for £2 million, is included in the England Under-15 squad for the international against

Tottenham's victory is lost on Ferdinand



Southampton fail to prevent Ginola, right, getting in a shot. Photograph: Dylan Martinez

former England striker, knew little about Tottenham Hotspur's recent draws against Middlesbrough and Derby County. He was carried off with concussion during both matches and, consequently, was deemed unfit to play in Cottenham's match against Southampton at White Hart

Lane on Tuesday night. Tottenham won 3-0, ending a run of six successive draws in the FA Carling Premiership, with Steffen Iversen and Chris Armstrong, Ferdinand's rivals in attack, scoring a goal each. Ferdinand is again likely to take a back seat - this time on the substitutes' bench - for the FA Cup quarter-final against Barnsley at Oakwell on Saturday.

"I bet Les has got an even bigger headache after seeing those two score," George Graham, the Tottenham manager, said, rather unsympathetically. "I was really pleased for both Chris and Steffen and I thought they did well. They could have had a lot more goals but for some good goalkeeping. I will have to think hard whether Les will get his

place back for Saturday."

Armstrong scored in the nineteenth minute with a low

By Russell Kempson

la's quickly-taken and precise free kick. Iversen added a second with a looping header from Ginola's cross in the second half and José Dominguez, a substitute, made it 3-0 in the final minute.

Tottenham, the Worthing ton Cup finalists, thus stretched their unbeaten run to 16 matches and Ferdinand. who was prevented from playing on the advice of a specialist, will find it difficult to regain his place. "We were going for goals and I think the tans appreciated it," Graham said. "Although we've drawn a lot of games recently, we've been entertaining at home and

TABLE

	_				_
	PW	DL	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	. 28 16	9 3	63	29 22 13	57 53 50 45
Challes	27 14	9 3 11 3 11 3 7 9	41	22	53
Arsenel	. 27 13	11 3	35	13	50
Leeds	. 27 12	9 5	41	26	45
Appor Villa	27 12	8 7	38	31	44
West Ham	. 27 11	7 9	31	38	40
Liverpool	27 11	6 10	50	34	39
Derby	27 9	11 7	26	25	38
Derby, Wimbledon	26 9	10 7	30	36	37
Todenham.	. 27 8	12 7	-33	32	36
Shell Wed			34	25	35
Newcaste			35	38	35
Middlestro.			34	39	33
Lacester	26-7	9 10	26	36	30
Everton	. 27 6	10 11	20	29	28
Charton	27 6	9 12	31	37	27
Coverno	27 7	8 14	4735473575883333553823582222	\$33.4236.8253938.8555555555555555555555555555555555	44 49 38 57 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58 58
Biackburn	. 27 6	8-13 5-16	27	38	26
Southwenpion	27 8	5 16	26	53	23
Notin Forest	27 3	6 16	22	54	17

	P	M	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd.,	28	18	9	3	63	29	57
Challes	27	14	11		47	22	53
Arsenel	27	13	11	3	35	13	50
Leeds	-27	12	9	6	41	26	45
APROT VILE	27	72	8	5	39	31	44
West Ham				9	31	38	40
Liverpool				10	50	34	39
Dertiv	27	9	11	7	26	25	38
Wimbledon	26	9	10	7	30	25 36	77
Todenham.	27	8	12	7	-33	32	36
Shell Wed	28	10	5	11	34	25	35
Newcaste					35	36	35 35 33 35 25
Middlesbro.					34	39	33
Lacester					26	36	30
Everton.					26	29	28
Cheston				12	31	37	27
Coverby					28	38	27
Biackhum		Ġ	ě		27	38	26
Southempion		6	5	16	26	53	23
Notin Forest.		3		16	22	54	17

ry was marred by an injury to Kieron Dyer, the England Under-21 midfield player. Dyer had given Ipswich a seventeenth-minute lead but

Pressman demands Hillsborough move

KEVIN PRESSMAN, the Sheffield Wednesday goal-keeper, wants to leave dropped by Danny Wilson, the manager, for the game against Wimbledon last

Pressman, who is annoyed that he has not retained his place after playing for the past three matches when Pavel Smicek was suspended, is to speak to Wilson over the next few days in an effort to resolve his future.

former England Under-21 and B international, who has made 270 league and cup apappears to have played his last game for the club. Pressman feels Wilson has let him down after he helped Wednesday to win the FA Carling Premiership games against Blackburn Rovers and Middlesbrough, with the only defeat coming in the

FA Cup fifth round to

Pressman said: "I want to go. I have done nothing

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

wrong because we have had two good results in the three games in which I have played. I hope he (Wilson) will do the decent thing and let me leave. I don't want to be back on the bench." Wilson is determined to

hang on to Pressman, aithough, with feelings run-ning high and with Leicester City believed to be interested, the goalkeeper could be on his way before the transfer

month. Wilson said: "We have three quality keepers and it is very difficult to keep

them all happy.
"Kevin Pressman has a big future here as far as I am concerned. I am obviously disap-pointed, but when he thinks about it rationally he might think he has reacted a bit too quickly." Dean Windass, the Oxford

United striker, is today ex-pected to join Bradford City in a deal worth more than £1 million. Bradford, the Nadivision club, originally had a El million offer turned down by Oxford, However, they have returned with a new bid and it is believed that Gordon Watson, the Bradford forward, could also be offered to Oxford as part

Liverpool have taken Marin Americanser on a week's trial Americanser, 2A, is a fo-mer Austria Under-21 inter-national and has just beloed his present club, FC Salzburg, to the Austrian domes-

TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

UEFA, CUP: Conster-flows, first lega: Addition Machid 2 AS Rome 1; Bolognii 3 Ly-one D, Bordoeux 2 Perma 1; Marseilles 2 ons 0, Bordeaux 2 Parma 1; Marsenes 2 Ceta Vigo 1. Fa CARLING PREMIERSHEP: Tottenham 3 Southernpton 0.

SAILING

Missier pass

SECONO DIVISIONE Bournemouth & Ful-

Leading positions								
	PW	DL	F	A	Pts			
Fusham	32 21	6 5	50	24	69			
Presson	33 19	8 6	63	33	65			
Walsell	33 18	7 8	45	38	61			
Gallagham,	32 15	13 4	53	27	58			
Gillingham, Boumenth	31 15	9 7	51	30	54			
Man City	32 13	13 6	39	24	52			
Chesartid	32 14	8 10	37	29	50			
Wigan,			45	30	49			
Milwell	34 13	10 11	39	40	49			
THIRD DIVISI	08-i e	ton One	ent 2 T	OMOL S	w D.			
SCOTTISH								
Bros Counts	بالجالجين	- LT	-		ENG.			

CLUB MATCH: Rengers & Middlestrough 4.
ERISSLEIGH CHALLENGE: TROPHYS:
Curarion-final: Doncesier 3 Northworth 2.
UMSDAND LEAGURE: Premier division:
Gaisborough 2 Whithy 0.
DR MARTHES LEAGURE: Southern division:
Ashibord 2 Cheinstord 1, Leagure Cup:
Third-round reptine Bistorn 1 Burton 1.
RYMAN LEAGURE: Premier division: Borntern Wood 1 Stough 0. First division:
Grays 1 Breintee 1, Odord City 0 Whyteleate 1; Lichnidge 2 Yearing 0. Second divistors: Yeard division: Cheshurt 4 Croydon 2.
Third division: Cheshurt 4 Croydon 2.
Third division: Cheshurt 4 Croydon 2.
Third division: Cheshurt 4 Croydon 2.
Clapton 9 Egistem 3; Contilhen Casulas 5
Aveley 1, "Boury 4 Homchurch 3, Ware 0.
Ford 2. Vendomen 1 Tophys: Fourth rounds:
Tooting and Micham 3 Epsom and Ewel 2.
FA OF WALLES PREMIER CUP: Ouarterfinal: Carolf 3 Swaptee 2.
Heal-LAND LEAGURE-Byon 4 Wick Academy 2. Rothes 1 Cove 1
SMERNOFF BRISH LEAGURE: Cocse-cola.

my 2. Rothes 1 Cove 1
SMRTNOFF RISH LEAGUE: Coce-cola
Cupz: Charathar-Braid: Creaders 1 Citionville 2 Jeec 1-1 etter 90min;
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
Rest division: OPR 1 Charlon 2.
PONTRY'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Deby 1 Leads 3. Third division: Helifax 3 Hull 0
COURTAGE COMBINED COUNTIES
LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 4 Neithsmn 3. Achiord 2 Crigostaed 1.
ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE:
Frast division: Billingham Synthonia 2
Crook 2, Dunston Federation 3 Billingham
Toan 2: Tow Law 3 Sestem Red Ster 1,
West Audderd 3 Concett 2.
JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division.

GREAT PRESSURE IS NOT TO BE FEARED. BUT CONTAINED.





FOOTBALL: HARD-WORKING VALERENGA THREATEN TO EXPOSE CHELSEA'S WEAKNESS IN LAST EIGHT OF CUP WINNERS' CUP

Vialli expecting no quarter

By Kevin McCarra

ON A previous visit to Stamford Bridge, when he was still manager of Norway, Egil Olsen was denied entry because he was not wearing the tie that is required in the VIP area. He had to nip round to the supporters' shop and buy one. This evening, as fitness after injury, and pick Olsen brings his Valerenga himself in attack instead. side to the ground. Chelsea may think wistfully of the time when they were able to exclude him from the premises

on sartorial grounds. It is not that Gianluca Vialli will fear the influence of his counterpart on the Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final that begins tonight, but he knows that any team under Olsen's control promises a sapping game. Chelses have had enough of those already. An eclectic signing policy has ensured style, but substance is lacking in the margin of their results.

Chelsea score too few goals and it is uncommon for them to enjoy the respite of an easy win. On Saturday, although performing with polish, Vial-it's side produced a 2-1 FA Carling Premiership victory over Liverpool despite directing only two shots on target.

Close contests prolong stress and increase weariness, making it all the more important that Vialli husbands his resources, particularly be-cause Chelsea must travel to

Old Trafford for an FA Cup quarter-final against Manchester United on Sunday. In choosing the line-up to face Valerenga, the player-manag-er will have to decide if he should spare Tore Andre Flo. who is yet to recover complete

He might also allow himself a small sigh over the unavailability of Bjarne Goldback, the midfield player who has scored three goals in his past two games. Goldback, like Mikael Forssell, is cup-tied.

It is impressive, though, that Vialli rarely allows exasperation to siphon off energy. He was not provoked by Olsen's claim that he could out Chelsea's resources to more effective use. "If he can do a better job here," Vialli said. "he should speak to Ken Bates and try and take over." The joke could be made safely because the Chelsea chairman has no cause to contemplate replacing his manager. Even allowing for Lazio's presence in the tournament. Chelsea could well retain the Cup Win-

ners' Cup in its final year.
All of Chelsea's industry will be needed to overcome the immediate obstacle and, if Valerenga are in a defensive posture this evening, the going may be slightly easier in the return leg in Oslo. The Norwegians expect to tax Vialli's side.

& Le Saux

Referee: B Gunter (Austria)

but are modest about their prospects of actually triumphing. Olsen, a boffin, puts Valerenga's chances at a mere 17.6

Their propects were too small to measure when 30 down to Besiktas in Turkey in the last round, yet they recovered to draw 3-3 and advance to the quarter-finals on a 4-3 aggregate. On that occasion, Valerenga happened to be booked into a hotel close to the ground and the players, ioliing on their balconies, enjoyed the sight of the crowd gather-ing over the course of the day. In view of the events that ensued, they have taken that practice to be a lucky charm.

This week, they have stayed at the Chelsea Village hotel at Stamford Bridge. A small club can afford to be unconventional and contentment appears to be Valerenga's secret weapon. Free from the perplexities of fame and wealth, life takes a harmonious shape for them and the accord with their own supporters is impressive. Accepting that some had an old-fashioned taste for standing, Valerenga removed the seats from one section of the Bislett Stadium, where their domiestic fixtures are played.

The fans are owed attentiveness. When the club was on the brink of collapse in 1994, they took to the streets of Oslo with collecting tins. One can appreciate why Olsen was willing to take a post at such a place. The squad also had a certain appeal, since it includes John Carew, the teenage forward who may attract bids from clubs such as AC Milan, Manchester United

and Bologna. Carew, like the rest of the team, works within the direct approach preached by Olsen. He likes to claim that every side in the world played like Norway when they were 1-0 down with five minutes remaining. Why, he wondered, did they not just start in that manner? Chelsea will have to deal with Olsen's unsettling logic tonight.

Minnows rise on Olsen's return

Andrew Warshaw

finds a unique coach preaching a familiar philosophy

Wellington boots, same long-ball game, same detailed computerised analysis of opponents' strengths and weaknesses: Egil Olsen, who really can lay claim to the term "professor", is back in the limelight that he has always tried to shun. And not a lot has changed. Olsen, Norway's most suc-

cessful coach, was supposed to have turned his back on football after guiding his country past Scotland and into the second round at the World Cup finals in France last summer. He was looking forward to taking up a job as a professor of sport at Oslo University and spending more time with his 4-year-old daughter high in the hills overlooking the Norwegian capi-tal. So much so that he even rejected the chance to manage Celtic and become an instant hero with the green and white half of Glasgow.

Yet, when it came to rescuing Valerenga, Chelsea's oppo-nents in the Cup Winners' Cup at Stamford Bridge tonight, Olsen was torn. After all, this was his home-town team, a club nicknamed the Bohemians, with a strong working-class background and a fan base of which Olsen was a committed member.

"At first, I said 'no', but

when they lost the next three games, I just had to help them." Olsen, 56, said as he put the finishing touches to what he expects will be the toughest task of his managerial career tonight. They were rock bottom of the Norwegian league and facing relegation. I would not have returned for any other club. What swung it was that I didn't have to move away - but I'm stili not sure I have done the right thing." Olsen not only saved



Valerenga from relegation, he pulled them up to a respectable seventh place when the Norwegian league season end-ed in October, winning seven of their last nine games. Furthermore, their record in Europe this season has been even more impressive. Rapid Bucharest, the Romanian side, were beaten; so, too,

were Besikras, of Turkey. Beating the Turks was a remarkable achievement. After a 1-0 win in the home leg, Valerenga were three goals down at half-time in Istanbul. Oisen changed tactics, switched to 4-3-3 and saw his side claw back all three goals in a 12-minute spell in the second half.

"The Turks were completely shelishocked," Anders Krystad, the unconventional, shaven-headed Valerenga managing director, said. "At half-time, Egil studied the scene and said we could still pull back. It was a miracle. It took a hell of a lot of persuasion to get him to join us last

paid dividends." As a result, Olsen, the first man to take Norway into the World Cup finals when they qualified for the 1994 tournament, has now been given a three-year contract at Valerenga, with the option to leave after one full season. In return, the club is getting a familiar

summer, but it has already

"The ground principles of the way my teams play have: not changed," Olsen said. "I still play with a 20nal defence and with as few passes as possible. It may not look very

spectacular, but it's the most penetrative and effective way of playing."

Olsen was out in his trademark Wellington boots for training within bours of arriving in London on Monday. but he does not need to do too much analysis when it comes to his opponents tonight. He knows the Chelsea squad

"I'm not too optimistic, but

we have a slight chance and we need to grah it," he said. We'll have to play very carefully. Our best chance of scoring is probably at a set-play or counter-attack. We will play a lot of long balls with not many touches. We'll probably run a lot more than Chelsea. even though they will proba-bly have the ball most of the time." SWIMMING

World Cup suffers stark final warning

FROM CRAIG LORD IN IMPERIA, ITALY

BY THE tenth of the 17 races that took place yesterday, when Yana Klochkova, of Ukraine. became the World Cup medley champion courtesy of the 12 points that victory in the 200 metres had brought her, it had become obvious that the annual winter short-course series format. Until that point, de-spite fast and tight races, not one stroke had made a scintilla of difference to the outcome of a World Cup series that has bal-

looned this year to 12 rounds. Mustapha Larfaoui, the president of Fina, the international governing body of swimming, had opened the session with the words: "Welcome to the World Cup final." However, what took place beneath the tented roof of the Felice Cascione pool here yesterday was not a World Cup final but a final warning for the World

Cup. Beyond the 2min 12.01sec effort of Klochkova, only the victory of Milos Milosevic. of Croatia, in the 50 metres butterfly, in 23.77sec, had any bearing upon the 12 categories that offer cash prizes to the first three finishers in the series, six each for men and women. Milosevic has one point less than James Hickman, of Great Britain, in the butterfly category and if, as expected, he finishes better than fifth in the 100 metres today, Milosevic will overtake Hickman in the race for the \$2,500 third prize, the Briton having raced in only three rounds, at which he was unbeaten over 100 and 200 metres.

Several new Russians and Hungarians made their marks, among them Anatoli Poliakov, of Russia, 19, who finished second in the 200 metres butterfly in Imin 55.81sec, Dimitri Komornikov, his countryman, the winner of the 200 metres breaststroke, and Eva Risztov, of Hungary, who, at just 13. beat three of Britain's best 900 metres freestyle swimmers in an impressive 8min

SAILING

Kick-off: 7.45. Television: Channel 5 (7.15 live), Radio: Talk Radio (7.00)

BIG MATCH LINE-UPS

G Zola

Autissier pays tribute to rescuer Soldini

ISABELLE AUTISSIER yesterday paid a moving tribute to her friend and fellow competitor, Giovanni Soldini, after the pair sailed together into Punte del Este in Uruguay on board FILA, at the end of an eventful leg three in the Around Alone Race (Edward

possible: 4-5-1)

Autissier has been a "passenger" on FILA since February 15 when her own Open 60, PRB, capsized 1.900 miles west of

Cape Horn. Soldini, who was 200 miles from her position, immediately responded to a request to rescue her, a task he performed efficiently. Speaking at the Yachi Club Punte del Este shortly after FILA crossed the

BASKETBALL

PATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indi-tation Floridge 31. Attention 10. Manufaction of other characters (M. Monte et al., Manufaction of Manufaction (M. Monte et Alexandre), Manufaction (M. Monte et al., Monte et al.

C. Changha et al., Assign an Erran Tolk Bio (E.) Monage Matty College State 19 Check to 1115 feet 108 Patter 1111 Los Anaphro-cipanos (E.) Patterin E. San Antonio (E.) French 111 Chef E. (E.) Vancouver 101 Los pagester 111

finish line to record back-toback wins in the two Southern Ocean legs of the race, Autissi-er said: "If I'm here today, if I'm able to speak to you, to laugh or cry or whatever, it's because Giovanni came. He had the huge responsibility to save my life, which is a terrible responsibility. He did it because he is a gentleman of the sea, because he's a wonderful sailor and because he has a

great seamanship spirit." The Iralian now has only to complete the last leg back to Charleston to win the race. In Auckland, Dawn Riley's America True, with consecutive wins, is the leader after two day of the Road to America's Cup Regatta.

Computers to help take Torrance makes strain for leading players return to action

FORGET titanium. Graphite won't cut it. The rage among the pros is Think Pads. It was Doral Ryder Open that 204 tour pros have been given these computers by IBM to schedules, check their swings with their coaches, do their with their families.

to use the computer.

is no longer the secret. Isonur revealed here on the eve of the help them to organise their expenses, keep track of their playing statistics, check their investments, communicate

As Think Pads normally cost \$4,000 (about £2,500), this is a case of to those that have, shall be given. The players have also been offered a threehour induction course in how GOLF

It has not yet been determined whether a pro who drops out of the exempt category at the end of each year will have to return his

From John Hopkins

Golf Correspondent

in Miami

Think Pad. A core group of players, including David Duval, joined in a ten-month collaboration programme to create, design, test and refine the software package. Since Duvai is at present enjoying

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL. Aick-off 7.30 unless stated Cup Winners' Cup Quarter-finals, first leg Cheisea v Valerenga (7 45) L'motw Moscow v Maccabi Hada (5 0) UNIBOND LEAGUE: Challenge Cup: Third-round replay: Colwyn Bay v

RYMAN LEAGUE: Purms Cup: Third round: Carney Island v Herdon.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Plets divisions Norwich v Crystal Palace Piret division: Norwich v Chystel Palace PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Second division: Braction) v Hudderstey (70) WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Pre-SCREWFOX DIRECT LEAGUE: Las Philips Cup: Quarter-line; Tiveron v Melscham MINERYA SPARTAN SOUTH MID-LANDS LEAGUE: Premier division:

LEAGUE: Premier division: Bucknigham Allheic, v Barknigsde; Somerset Ambuy v Toddington, Weithem Abbey v Russip Manor, Weisyn Garden v Hillingdon Boscugh. CS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Pre-division: Bandon v Lye Town OTHER SPORT

ICE HOCKEY: Seltonde Superfeegue: London Knights v Cardill Devis (7 0), New-castle Riverrings v Brasmott Bees (7 15), Manchester Storm v Sheffield Stedlers (7 0)

the most sensational run of form on the PGA Tour, it might be deduced it is in part at least because of his use of the computer.

The Doral tournament, played over the famed Blue Monster course, is the first of the year to be staged on the East Coast of the United States. Its field has been reduced in quality by the extra money and incentives that were offered to players to appear in the seven tournaments on the West Coast.

Last year, Doral attracted

five of the top six players in the world and 18 of the top 30; this year it has Ernie Els of the top six and 11 of the top 30. The Blue Monster, which was redesigned by Ray Floyd in 1997, has been returned to its original form after complaints by the pros. "If anything, it's too easy now," Nick Faldo, who is embarking on a run of events in the United States in an attempt to climb

86th, said. Also paying close attention to the rankings is Patrick Sjoland who, along with Eduardo Romero, received a sponsor's invitation to this event after his good performance in the World Match Play Championship last week. Sjoland is now 51st in the rankings and the top 50 players will receive invita-

FROM MEL WEBB IN PENINA, PORTUGAL

THE European Tour season is flew a very great distance in eight weeks old today and. glory be, it has at last arrived in Europe after all that inter-continental gallivanting. Already some some of the circuit's more energetic performers have played dozens of competitive rounds on three continents - Sam Torrance, on the other hand, has played two rounds, full stop

Torrance, 45. is a living embodiment of a curious little paradox in that he is one of the. tour's most durable players and also one of its most injuryprone. For Torrance to negotiate a season unsulfied by some esoteric malaise or another is about as likely as snow in the Sahara and vet. gallant soldier that is is, he keeps plodding along, head down, gazing ruminatively at a spot on the ground that is



Torrance durable

40/1.....3-2....100/1

12/1.....0-0.....12/1

9/1.....9/1

25/1.....2-2.....25/1

Other scores on requ

PRICES SUBJECT TO PLUCTUATION, WILLIAM HILL FOOTBALL RULES APPLY. TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPHOME 0800 289 892

January intending to play in the South African Open, but it was not long before he had to pull out of the tournament, the victim of a slipped disc at the base of his neck and a displaced rib. His aching body was telling him something. but Torrance was having none of it, so he hopped on another plane and flew to Western Australia to play in the Heinken

Classic the following week. This time, he faced the pain, and it beat him. Two rounds. missed cut, still hurting, back to his Surrey home. And there he has stayed ever since, while subjecting himself to a regular pummelling by Sophic Denham, a physiotherapist from Egham.

The upshot is that Torrance is in the Algarve for the Portuguese Open this week, having returned to the Penina course for which he has the most yielding of soft spots.
It was here that, as Rookie

of the Year in 1972, he received two weeks' coaching from Henry Cotton, the patriarch of Penina, and here, too, that he won this championship ten years on. If the past can affect the performances of the present, Torrance should be in for a good week.

Torrance said, with no great apparent conviction, that it would be nice to to do well here, although he was still in pain. At such times as this it is best to watch his mouth, and if he allows himself a small, enigmatic smile, nothing is more certain than that he will be trying like fury. Yesterday he smiled; the

rest should probably watch

SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: lan Stark, a member of the gold medal-winning team at the 1997 Open European Championships at Burghley, heads the list of 16 three-day-event riders named yesterday by the British Horse Trials Association as the "elite group" being groomed for the Sydney Glympic Carnes, SOUAD: C Barle, W For-Pit, I Stark, P Philipps, P Beckett, A M Evans, J Tultoch, J Brakewell, K Dison, K Glifford, G Parsonaye, N Taylor, L Law, O Moore, K Parker, and C

E SQUASH: England will challenge a Rest of the World squad in the schedule vacuum created by the postponement of the British Open Squash Championship at the end of this month. The new British champion, Paul Johnson, of Kent, will lead the England squad. The matches will be at Lambs Club in London on March 26, Edgbaston Priory in Birmingham on March 27, and Abbeydale Park in Sheffield on March 28.

ATHLETICS: Spencer Oliver will cap a remarkable recovery by competing in the London Marathon next month. The former European super-bantamweight champion, from Barnet, was fighting for his life last May after being beaten by Sergei Devakov in a title defence at the Royal Albert Hall. He had an operation to remove a blood clot from his brain and spent two days on a ventilator before recovering. E CYCLING: National road racing champion Matt Stephens leads his Harrods team in its first event of the season. the 50 miles Silver Beck Rymer race on the

12/1 GOLDBAEK (C)

20/1.... ODEGAARD (V)

Others on request. Own goals do not count

12/1.... NO GOALSCORER

16/1 KAASA (V)

16/1 ... KUVICEK (V)

BOWLS EXETER: EWIBA Indoor champion-aritigus: Pates: Quarter-Brailes: C. Webb ger 2: Echanor (Bloth: Martham) by section and a Basicane (Respiredgel 2: 20 offer cent end, J. Webb and P. School (Bergen) by L. Gran and B. Bosan C. Webb at 23.27. G. Western and L. Schools: Oshini C. and C. In N. Grang and E. L. man, Edden 24.14. M. Pusies and J. Schools: Oshini C. and C. In N. Grang and E. L. man, Edden 24.14. M. Pusies and J. Schools: Oshini C. and C. and G. Schools: and P. Schools: Oshini C. and G. Schools: and P. Schools: Oshini C. and G. Schools: and P. Schools: An Oshini C. and G. Schools: and P. 2. Leaves (Except of the Deligit and Studie) in Charles and Planet Fit Browner (2014). Semi-Broke (et al., 1984). Respectively and Planet Fit Browner (2014). Semi-Broke (et al., 1984). Western and Makeusa IV Public and Area (2014). Public Western and Research Process of Wardens and Makeusa (2014). Research Public Area (2014). Public Western and Research Public Area (2014).

CRICKET

First Test match New Zealand v South Africa ACA MARKE thank the or book New Scaland arm with South Along SOUTH AFRICA: First Immay, 601 for 5 dec (D. I Current 2/5 mot by 15 forsten 103, S.M. Refleck ett and out, 1 ft Brindes 63;

wat in 13 b 2 n 2 nb 51 Total (3 whis) 2. (2.104, 3.193

SOMUNG Kalls, 130-61-0, Potock 13-5-21-1, Dorold 92-20-0 Fassing 12-6-26-1 Adams 30-11-06-1 Charge 6-3-5-0 Umprot DUH aper (Australia) and DB Cover.

ICE HOCKEY SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: London MATTONIAL LEAGUE (MHL): Boslon 3 Finance 2 Manmod 4 Philadelphia 1, Lom-rus 5x, 2 Washington 8 New York Lakeders 2 Chance 4 New York Rangers 2 Dates 2, 14 Tonach 1 St Louis 5

FOR THE RECORD

OXFORD LENT RACES MENI, Second division: St Catherine's Epid Warburn Extren Bed St John's U.54 bad Heriterd Jerus Deutsche II New Colony & Cherc Chauch & bad News Colony & Cherc Chauch & bad News Colony & Cherc Chauch & bad News Colony & Cherc Chauch & bad Unschan & Gourth of Heriterion Colony & Epid Heriterion Second & Heriterion & St John's Bod Memorah & St John's Bod Memorah & Bod Libertan & December 19 St Peter & Bod Memorah & and Alegaden III Unschaft & Bod Unschaft & and Alegaden III Unschaft & Bod Unschaft & Second division Memorah Bod December & Memorah & Second division Memorah Rendered North Cherc & American Chapter Del Parillord Nether bed St America St Hugh Send Unschaft Land Wardenn II St American Thand division Lander Lander December & St America St Hugh Send Unschaft Lander & Memorah & Bod Memorah & Send Memorah & Bod Memorah & Send Memorah & Bod Memorah & Bo

NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP: Posto poned; Olaham - Frutherstane

RUGBY LEAGUE

RUGBY UNION

ENGLAND A TEAM SO pay tream! A at Demotros (comment C Catling (Sourcester), S Hanley (Sourcester), S Hanley (Sourcester), S Hanley (Sourcester), N Walshe Haroquest R Woodmen (Grander G Chaire Stracer) W Green (Wasser), R Fider (Garretter) G Archer (Wander Garretter) G Archer (Wander) B Clarke (Matemand, A Vander (Garretter) G Archer (Schanes), B Replacements: J Basandell (Soe), M Barrows (London Ind.), M Wood (Wasse) G Seley (Nothampton) M Controll (Glacester), M Hatley (London Ind.), R Michael (London Ind.)

CLIPPER ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE:

SNOOKER

BANGKOK: Theffund Meeters: Perst round: A McManup (Scri) to M Storens AValors 5-4 S Hendry (Scri) to P Dougs (Wales) 5-4 J Parrox (Eng) to D Hands (Eng) 5-4 N Bond (Eng) to D Febbox (Eng) 5-2 D McGarn (Males) to R O'Salwan (Eng) 5-2 D McGarn (Wales) to R O'Salwan (Eng) 5-3 N Walestra (Wales) to H Abornellin (Scal) 5-3 N Doberty (fire) bi C W Tar (AG) 5-3

SWIMMING

BAPERIA, Italy: World Capt: Short-course event: Winners: Merc Protestyle: 100 nc D Pritanics, (Parc) 43 Short-British placing: 3, 5 Short-69 [J. 400 nc E Breitsh placing: 3, 5 Short-69 [J. 400 nc E Breitsh placing: 3, 5 Short-69 [J. 400 nc E Breitsh placing: 3, 5 Short-69 [J. 400 nc E Breitsh placing: 3, 7 Wine, 56 (7 Breesshirtoke: 100 nc 50 Short-69 [J. 400 nc J. 40 n

TENNIS

SCOTTSDALE, Arbonat Frenklin Temple-ton Classic: First round: C Polono (Fr) is M Puerta Arg. 7-6, 6-2 P A Pasas (US) or F Respon (6n 3-6, 75, 6-5) Frenkli (Auc) of Machani (Sae) 6-3, 7-5, A Ne (Auc) of C Acodus: (Aco 6-3, 2-6, 7-6, 1-6) Frenklin (Aco) (FS) Schaler (Hot) 6-6, 7-5, 6-1 N Lagerini (So 12) N Ecount (Fr) 6-7, 6-1, 6-1 F Closed (So) 12) N Ecount (Fr) 6-7, 6-1, 6-1 COPENNAGEN OFFICE First round: D San-Cando (F) at 1 Landscap (Sae) 6-2, 6-7, COPERNAGEN OPEN: First round D San-gunden 17 bit / Landstery (Size) 6-2. 6-7. 6-1. 5 koudes (Author for A Cennert Fry 1-5. 6-2. 5 koutes) for mit J knode (Sto-vand) 6-2. 6-1. 6-1. Wildens (2m) for Nordes (Sto-vand) 6-2. 6-1. 6-1. Wildens (2m) for Nordes Fry 4-6. 6-3. 6-0. G Pozza (II) bit M Taleston (Sac) 4-6. 7-5. 6-2. Mill Mary (Edel) for M Cartern (Den) 7-5. 7-5. 8 Millers (Edel) for M Ketthern (Sen) 7-6. 4-6. 6-3. N Kuda (Sue) bit A Vinaguerra (Sen) 6-1. 8-3. N Goden (SA) 2-1. P Winsselt (Frie) 6-2. 6-3. Second round: 6-3. Second round: 6-3. Second round: 6-3. Second

POOLS DIVIDENDS

BRITTENS: Treble chance: 23pts 2256 70.
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ZETTERS: Treble: 52 50 12 50 55
Four semps: 51 10 Bight homes: 53
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Four draws: 51 10 Bight homes: 53
Four draws: 51 10 Bight homes: 51
Four draws:

constantly about two yards ahead of his feet. back up the world rankings from his present position of This year Torrance has wasted no time at all in getting the nasties over and done with in his 28th season on tour. He

rankings at the end of this A further incentive for the Swede is that if he continues to play well in this country then he might join the US tour and become eligible for a Think Pad.

month based on their world



Aintree circuit on Saturday. "LIVE" CUP WINNERS' CUP ACTION 1/4 CHELSEA VALERENGA 9/1 7/2 DRAW Kick-off 7.45pm, Live o CORRECT SCORE HALF TIME / FULL TIME FIRST GOALSCORER CHELSEA TO W VALERENCA CHELSEA CHELSEA 8/15 3/1.... FLO (C) CHELSEA DRAW 16/1 3/1.... ZOLA (C) 8/1.....1-0.....14/1 7/1.....2-0.....40/1 7/2.... VIALLI (C) CHELSEA VALERENGA 50/1 TO/T ... DI MATTEO (C) DRAW CHELSEA 9/2 10/1.....2-1.....33/1 7/1....3-0....100/1 8/1....3-1....100/1 12/1.... CAREW (V) DRAW DRAW 15/2

DRAW......VALERENGA 25/1

VALERENGA .. CHELSEA 28/1

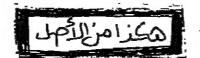
VALERENGA ... VALERENGA 20/1

Bets void if match not completed.

FOR MORE FOOTBALL PRICES SEE CH4 TEXT P601/2/3

16/1

VALERENGA .. DRAW



ATHLETICS: A SPRING IN THE STEP OF THE WORLD INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sprinters feel rub of the Green

AT ONE end of the Green Dome here, where the seventh world indoor championships begin tomorrow, two portable shrines stood yesterday, ready for employment in the opening ceremony. The omikoshi, to use the Japanese, are said to drive away evil spirits and purify the land over which

they pass. Try telling that to the sprinters. No matter how many times the shrines are carried across the arena, there will be no purifying the land beneath the world's fastest feet. The sprinters and the horizontal iumpers, who convert pace into distance, are not best pleased with the track.

"A big trampoline" was how Sarka Kasparkova. Ashia Hansen's main rival for the women's triple jump gold medal. described the runway, which mirrors the construction of the lanes. "It is perfect for us but the sprinters are go-ing to have a nightmare." Andy Hart, the Great Britain 800 metres runner, said, "Too bouncy." Marcus Adam, the AAA 200 metres champion, forewarned.

John Smith, coach to Maurice Greene, the 60 metres record holder and

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, IN MAEBASHI, JAPAN favourite to win here, stamped

a foot on the Mondo synthetic surface laid on wood and only half-jokingly said he would have preferred a bottom layer of cement. If a world record comes it will be in spite of the

track and not because of it. Greene, from the United States, equalled Donovan Bailey's 50 metres world indoor record of 5.56sec three weeks ago and was only 0.01sec out-side his own 60 metres world record of 6.39sec in the semi-finals of the US championships last weekend. The Green Dome is expecting nothing less than a Greene victory.

This assumes that Greene does not suffer a repeat of the US final, in which he stumbled and was beaten by Tim Harden. Greene is known as the Kansas City cannonball and now there is a double boom coming from that direc-tion. Harden, too, is from Kan-

Harden's 6.44sec last weekend elevates him to equal third, with Ben Johnson, on the all-time list. Only Greene and Andre Cason are ahead. In a field which also includes Deji Aliu, the Nigerian who

ran 6.48 last month, Jason Gardener, though he is the fastest European this winter with 6.52 will have his work cut out to be among the medals for Britain.

Gardener, though, has achieved the consistency that suggests that he may be ready to take another step up. A step back in time is being taken by John Regis and Kevin Little. It is ten years since Regis became Britain's first world indoor champion, winning the 200 metres. Little, from the United States, was third that day. However, with Frankie Fredericks present nobody is predicting victory for Regis or Little, who is the defending

champion. All individual event winners receive \$50,000 (£31,000), except for the woman who must work the hardest. The winner of the women's pole vault must beat 25 others but, because the event is still developing, she will receive only

LINKS ME: www.igal.org/WIC99

\$37,500. None of the other nine field events has more than 15 athletes competing.

Max Jones, the Great Britain performance director, repeated yesterday his opposition to the International Amateur Athletic Federation's decision to turn the field events into straight finals. The harsh standards for qualification have left half the finals with too few athletes for a full complement of 12.

While places go unfilled, some British athletes, among others, have been denied an opportunity to compete. Jones mentioned two Commonwealth champions. Jo Wise (long jump) and Larry Achike (triple jump), as examples. "I am delighted at the lack of entries for the field events because it is an experiment that has gone wrong," Jones said. "Hopefully they will not repeat it."

An exception is Hansen's event, with 15 entries and heavy with talent. Both the Briton and Kasparkova said yesterday that a jump beyond the world record of 15.16 metres, held by Hansen, may be required to win. This, despite

Kasparkova's criticism of the runway. There would be little disadvantage, Kasparkova said, if technique was perfect. But, if you make one mistake, the runway gives it back to you three times," she said.

Britain's gold medal prospects rest with Hansen, Colin Jackson, in the 60 metres hurdles, Jamie Baulch, in the 400 metres, and the men's 4 x 400 metres sonad.

it was in the last world indoor championships, two years ago, that Wilson Kipketer, the Kenyan-born Dane, set an 800 metres world record in his heat and another in the final. Later in the year he went down with malaria and it was a sad sight to see him trail in last in the outdoor European championship final last year. The stadium capacity of 9,000 has sold out for all three days.

Emperor Akihito will attend amid tight security, which means that one Emperor will be watching another. Haile Gebrselassie - 'Go Emperor' are the words on his supporters' club T-shirts - is the unbackable favourite for the 3,000 metres. A world record coming up for the Ethiopian? The track, to the envy of the sprinters, is on his side.





Wedlund, left, confessed to being anorexic, McGwire, centre, would fail an Olympic dope test, while McColgan once weighed as little as seven stone

A lot of athletes, it turns out, are simply not eating enough.
An alarming initiative was launched last week by the British Olympic Association, UK Athletics and the Eating Disorders Association. They hope to raise awareness of the growing problem of eating disorders. Coaches, family, friends and athletes are to be targeted with details of the early warning signs and risks of anorex-

ia and bulimia nervosa. The campaign coincides with news that problems in both male and female athletes are running out of control. Research at the University of Leeds by Angie Hulley, the former English cross-country champion and marathon international, reveals that one in ten of Britain's female distance runners has "some kind of eating disorder". They are obsessively convinced that less fat equals more fitness.

It can happen at the highest level. The current European cross-country champion, Sara Wedlund, is a self-confessed anorexic, while Lucy Hassell, the British international run-ner, became so thin that she

wig worn by a married woman.

in that country in the 1960s.

SHEITEL

LIAMAA

SPUMONI

WORD-WATCHING

(b) Among strictly Orthodox Ashkenazi Jews, a

(c) The name given by President Nyerere of Tanzania to a kind of socialism be introduced

(a) A kind of ice-cream dessert. The word

comes from the Italian spuma spume or foam.

(a) The Taoist doctrine of letting things follow

good bout of exercise to work up a healthy appetite. Or is there? Body image produces a distorted picture

was forced to use a wheel-

Liz McColgan revealed that in 1988, in the run-up to the Olympics, her weight fell to seven stone. She was outkicked for gold in Seoul. "I was so weak and undernourished I didn't have the energy to sprint for the line," she said.

It is not just running. There are problems in the worlds of ballet, figure-skating, gymnastics, rowing and horse riding. In the United States, wrestlers often binge-eat before a match after starving themselves be-fore the weigh-in. The deaths of three college wrestlers late in 1997 triggered panic and it was revealed that they often exercise in saunas or run or cycle in plastic or rubber clothing to sweat off weight.

Other athletes have been known to use such high-risk techniques as jogging in hot showers while wrapped in plastic bags, swallowing diu-

BELLUM

DATO

GALIGNANI



reties, laxatives or amphetamines, and self-induced

All this will make alarming reading for thousands of par-

ents who will see it as yet another reason why they should not encourage their children to take part in sports already tamished by drug and finan-cial scandals. Unfortunately just as drugs and eating disorders distort the body, so too, poisoned attitudes to competition and rewards for winning have distorted the very body of sport itself.

Yesterday's answers should have been:

the shores of the Persian Gulf.

(c) An evergreen plant native to the south-east-

(a) A small boat or canoe used in ports along

(b) A landowner or chief in northern Borneo.

Philippine Islands, and some adjacent areas.

(c) Colloquial appellation of the English-lan-

guage newspaper Galignam's Messenger, pub-lished daily in Paris until 1884

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

I Nxg6! hxg6 2 e6+ Qc7 3 Bf4 I-0

Historically it is nonsense. The earliest trainers realised that one of the needs of the sportsman in vigorous train-ing was a plentiful and nutritious food supply. Whenever food has been short it has been seen as a handicap to perin the run-up to the first

postwar Olympics in 1948, when food rationing was in force. British hopefuls were offered extra food parcels. And the very earliest manuals on distance running laid great emphasis on the quality and quantity of food - plentiful roast beef, roast and boiled tautton or chicken, vegetables and stale crusty bread, all washed down with ale. The meat was usually taken before the longest work-out of the day. On the move, the athletes topped up with mutton stew, cairs foot jelly or eel broth, and drank beef tea, coffee, ginger ale, milk, and at times champagne and brandy.

Today's experts believe that eating disorders are especially common among athletes because of the pressure on them. Competition reinforces charac-teristics such as perfection-ism, obsessive behaviour, the desire to control physique and attention to detail. Most successful athletes are more deter-mined and disciplined than the average. They set the highest goals and work extra hours to achieve them.

The same pressure that will drive one athlete to bulk up by the illegal use of steroids is the engine that drives another to

shed weight through anorexia and bulimia. They just see dif-ferent paths to producing what they believe will be the perfect and winning body.

The body images, thin or thick, come from the top. Eve-ry American schoolboy knows that Mark McGwire, the St Louis Cardinals' baseball super-slugger, bulks his body with the drug androstenedi-one. The stuff is banned by the International Olympic Committee but Major League Baseball has this week declined again to ban it. Thou-sands of kids will go on trying to buy a body like McGwire's at their local drugstore.

hey want the body and they hunger for the rewards that follow. For excelling in sport is increasingly seen as a lucrative stepping stone to a glittering quasi-showbiz ca-reer where image is all. Such a distorted view pushes everything else aside. A well balanced athlete will enjoy home, career, hobbies, friends and intellectual and cultural pursuits. But if sport is allowed to dominate completely there is dangerous imbalance.

Putting lottery money into pumping children through sporting bothouses of excellence, with the lure of gold dangling ever before them, is all very well, and of course coaches and doctors must be on the lookout to pick up the pieces when young people are physically or psychologically damaged by their sport.

But there will always be too 1.30 Open Country Presented by Richard Unidge 2.00 The Archers Yesterday's edition (r) 2.15 Afternoon Play: Assassins — A Mere Five Thousand Pounds See Choice many such victims while the leaders of sport whip up the appetite for fame and fortune 3.00 Call You and Yours 0870 010 0444 above all else, when what they should be putting back on the menu is the joy and fun that sport has long lost.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Seaside shenanigans

BBCI 8pm

Roy Hudd pops up in Bridehaven tonight, a spurned husband in his wife's car toiled high with ber brightest frocks), in search of the (now vanish-ed) B&B in which he had a night of passion some decades ago. Harbournaster Mike (Nick Berry) is decades ago. Harbourmaster Mike (Nick Berry) is quick to spot a wounded stray and soon has him metaphorically tucked up with Aunt Nicholls (Paola Dionisotti, looking increasingly like Sheila Hancock's long-lost sister). Hudd is actually suicidal, making increasingly pathetic attempts to end it all and giving away all his money (which his wife regards as hers). Meanwhile, Rita Blade's loutish son Jason seeks revenge on her former employer by making a hoax bomb threat.

Access All Areas: The Half Monty Channel 4, 8,30pm

Channel 4, 8.30pm

A film about a group of small people (formerly called dwarves or people of restricted growth) who decided to form a male striptesie roupe called, inevitably. The Half Monty. They tour the country playing to apparently enthusiastic audiences who, they say, accept them as professional dancers and performers, and by no means regard them as a treak show. Well, up to a point... Sam Bagnall and Cilla Ware's film gives the men the chance to make their point both verbally and in performance, although the latter reveals that precision in choreography is not their speciality. I am not sure why male strippers are such a popular attraction, but it is undeniable that The Half. Monty, with their enthusiasm and the obvious pride they take in themselves and in their work, deserve to be cashing in as much as anybody else. deserve to be cashing in as much as anybody else.

Ramsay's Boiling Point Channel 4, 9pm

The fact that changes were being made in the editing of this, the second of five programmes about the London chef-proprietor Gordon Ramsay, right up to our press deadline, indicates the, um, sensitivity of those involved. With his new

Nick Berry and Tina Hobley star in the drama Harbour Lights (BBCl, 8pm)

restaurant apparently taking in excess of £50,000 a week (not bad going on 40 covers for lunch and 45 for dinner), he has already sacked six of his staff and now finds himself in a media simm over expelling the Sunday Times critic A.A. Gill and his friends (including Joan Collins). Still, he can hardly complain about being tagged a "celebrity chef" after 35 photoshoots and 40 interviews in six months and a feature in OKI magazine.

Wheeler Dealers: Clubs BBC2, 8.30pm

Two teams of three, led by Mariene (Rotherham, shrewd) and Austin (London, not as fly as he thinks), attempt to convert £1,000 and the use of a club for a night, into a profit, by staging a one-off event, with only five working days to pull everything together, from promotion to booking performers. Peter Stringsellow gives Martene advice on her karaoke evening with celebrity look-alikes and amateur go-go dancers. Abstin goes for a mixture of popular DIs and aspiring bands. Neither evening appears to be nearly as much fun as watching these two trios trying to set them up, and how Markene attempts to make it three wins in a row.

Tony Patrick

BBC WORLD SERVICE

S.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Cullock 7.55
My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 From Cur Own
Correspondent 8.20 Off the Shelt Captain Carefit's Mandolin
8.35 The World 9.00 World News 8.05 Network 9.20 Andy
Kershaw's World of Music 9.50 Sports Round-Up 18.00
Newsdesk 18.30 British Today 18.45 Partometric 11.00
Newsdesk 18.30 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newsfour 2.00 World
News 2.05 The World 9.250 Medician Books 2.00 World News
3.05 Sports Round-Up 3.15 Westway 3.30 The Greenfield
Collection 4.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 The Haist
Collection 4.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 The Haist
Studio 4.45 The Leb 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business
Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up 6.00 World News 6.15 British

Studio 4.45 The Leb 5.06 Europe Today 5.36 World Business:
Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up 5.09 World News 7.05 The Worls
Today 5.30 Assignment 7.00 World News 7.05 The Worls
7.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.45 Off the Sheft: Captain
Constills Mendolin 9.00 Newshoir 9.00 World News 9.05
World Business Report 9.20 Eritem Today 9.30 Mentican
Books 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 The
Music Studio 10.45 The Lab 11.00 World News 11.05 Outlook
11.45 Insight 12.00em The World Today 12.30 The Worls
12.55 My Certaxy 1.00 The World Today 2.30 Focus on Faith 9.00
The World Today 2.30 Focus on Faith 9.00
The World Today 2.30 Focus on Faith 9.00
The World Today 3.30 World Business
Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00mm Nick Balley's Easier Breakfast. A relection of rousing music to start the day 8.00 Herry Kelly. The Hell of Fame Hourand CD of the Week 12.00pm Luncheme Requests. Jane Jones presents (avourite music 2.00 Concerto. Neuda (Trumpet Concerto in E flat major) 3.00 Jamée Crick. Continuous Cassics and Alternoon Romance 6.30 Newshight. The latest headines and sport updates 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Weeld (The Four Seasons, Ombre-vansinguist) orror; Trio in A minor, Oboe Concerto in C; Laudets Puerl) 11.00 Mann at Night. A chance to wind down with the sound of ambient music 2.00pm Concerto. Neuda (Trumpet

sound of ambient music 2.00mm Concerto. Neruda (Trumpe

Concerto in E flat major) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths.

Report 3.46 Insight 4.00 The World Today

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Mary III is the ar

RADIO CHOICE

Radio 4, 8pm

Afternoon Play: A Mere Thousand Pounds I do not have a preview tape of A Drop to Drink, which is the last in what has been a fascinating series about our national obsession with water. But I recommend that anyone who has missed previous programmes should catch up with the series mow, for not the least of its ments is that it provides handy, bite-sized chunks of information which can come in useful when conservations fall

Radio 4, 2,15pm This play in the Assassins season is by David Pownhall and it stars David Horovitch, so the writing and performance credits are sufficient to make it worth listening. What makes that effort even more worthwhile is the remarkable story of even more worthwhile is the remarkable story of John Bellingham, an ordinary man whose claim to fame, or notoriety, is that in 1812 he shot the then Prime Minister, Spencer Perceval, at the House of Commons. Pownhall's work reveals Bellingham as a tortured man deserving of much sympathy: his business had been ruined by Perceval's absurd trade embargoes against Napoleon and the Government refused to meet even modest demands for compensation. The public's backing for Bellingham was to impact heavily on his trial.

provides handy, one-sized crums of information which can come in useful when conversations fall flat or take an awkward turn: we shall learn tonight, for example, that East Angha has the same annual rainfall as Jordan. But the main thrust is to examine the legacy of the Victorians, who designed and built a superb water supply. Just as well because they, like us, got through enormous amounts of the stuff. Peter Barnard

6.30mm Zoe Bell 9.00 Simon Meyo 12.00pm Jo Whitey 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsheat 6.00 Dave Pearce. The best in music 8.00 The Evening Session 10.00 Trade Update 10.10 John Peel. With a session by Qui

RADIO 1 (BBC)

RADIO 2 (BBC) 6.00am Serah Kennady 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Juliet Morts 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Waker 7.00 David Alian 8.00 Paul Jones 9.00 Punt and Dennis: It's Been a Bad Week (4/5) 9.30 Cornedy Showcaser If Symptoms Parsist. The lite of a Jewish cancer consultant (7/7) 10.00 Melly Talks Juzz 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.00am Lynn Parsons 3.00 Alex Leiter

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

S.00mm Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast with Julian Wornicker and Annie Webster 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00pm The Middley News 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive 7.00 News Edite with Devid Michael 7.30 in the Line 8.00 Inside Edge 8.00 Hoped Report of Webster new in British beside that is 40 September 1 10.00 Late Nort Live 1.00mm Lto All Night

TALK RADIO

8.00em The Big Boys Breakfast 9.00 Scott Chisholm & Sally James 12.00pm Jusice Wilh Jacobs 1.00 Anne Rasburn 4.00 The Sports Zone 7.00 Live Coverage of Chelses v Valarenge 10.30 James Whale 1.00am kan Collins

VIRGIN

6.30em Puse Williams 9.30 Mark Forrest 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Hamlet Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoff 10.00 James Memit 1.00em Steve Power 4.30 Richard Allen

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trelawry
9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hobday
10.30 Artist of the Week: Bernard Heitlick
11.00 Sound Stories: Fisally Affairs The Alain dynesty
12.00pm Coseposes of the Week: Tchalkovsky
1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert (Sounding the Certury) Live from St George's, Brandon Hit, Bristol. Anne Quefielec, plano
2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Alexander Titov and Osmo Vanska, Josephine Kright, cello
4.00 Ensemble Continuing the celebrations marking the centenery of Francis Poulanc
4.45 Music Machine with Tommy Pearson
5.00 in Turns Sean Rafferty is joined by the guitarist Stave Grigorian

7.30 Performance on 3 (Sounding the Century) Live from the Bridgeweter Hall, Manchester, BBC Philtermonic under Vassily Sinassly, Gillian Cellow, cor anglats, Martin Roscoe, piano. MacMillan (The World's Ransoming); Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 5 in E flat, Emperor) 8.35 The Politics of the Romantic Hero 8.55 Concert, part two. Strauss (Ein Helderleben)
9.45 Postscript: Cultural Nationalism (4/5)
10.10 Music Restored Lucie Steeping introduces various treatments of an old Portuguese dance 10.45 Night Waves Oprah Winfrey sters in Jonethan Demme's screen version of Beloved
11.30 Jazz Notes with Alyn Shipton
12.00am Composer of the Weelc Coptand (f):
1.00 Through the Night with Donald Macleoci

5.30mm World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Intehora Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today with Ashley Gething
8.00 Today with James Naughtle and Sue MacGregor
8.35 (I.W) Yesterday in Partiament
9.00 Melvyn Bragg: In Our Time
9.30 Q & A. Jez Nelson investigates plastic surgery
9.45 (FM) Sertal: Zarafa Pert four
9.45 (FM) Sertal: Zarafa Pert four
9.45 (I.W) Daily Service
10.00 Woman's Hour with Jenni Munay
11.00 Crossing Continents with Tim Wheweil
11.30 Fat Chance Part four
12.00 (I.W) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00pm (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours
1.00 The World at One with Nick Clark
1.30 Open Country Presented by Richard Unidge

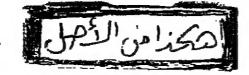
3.30 First Nights with Sara Parker
3.45 This Scaptred tale Part 44
4.00 Nace Work New series
4.30 The Material World with Trevor Mitchell
5.00 PM with Cris Love and Nigel Wranch
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Yes, Minister (r)
7.00 The Archers 7.15 Front Row
7.45 The Cry of the Bittern Broadcast earlier (r)
8.00 On Tap See Choics (3/3)
8.30 The Week in Westminster
9.00 Testbeds with Vanessa Colinoridge
9.30 Melvyn Bragg: In Our Time (r)
10.00 The World Tonight Presented by Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedthime: Ernest Hemingsay
Centenary — The Sun Also Riese Part four (r)
11.30 (FM) A Good Riesd with Thomas Sutclifie (r)
11.30 (FM) A Good Riesd with Thomas Sutclifie (r)
11.30 (LW) Today in Partisament
12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book; Five Stories by
Anton Chelchov — Ivan Matveylich
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

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FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 683, 908. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55sm). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1068. Television and radio listings compiled by lan Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, June Gregory and Labin Machines.

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It's easy to be brave while toting a camera

TV jungle is that pretty soon you find that you've got a lot of company in what was, until so recently, a broadcasting wilderness. With his previous show, TV Nation, and now with his latest Channel 4 series. Michael Moore: The Awful Truth, Michael Moore must be either irked or flattered that his TV tricks now crop up so

frequently elsewhere. Not only does Dennis Pennis toss awkward questions at unsuspecting celebrities but Channel 4's Mark Thomas, like Moore, taunts fatcats who he feels are doing the dirty on the common man.

One advantage Moore has over these two is that he's very hard to miss in a crowd. It's not the trademark baseball cap that makes Moore stand out, so much as the fact that he looks like he could be the son of Doberman, from Sgt Bilko's motor pool. The downside

The trouble with cutting a is that it's difficult for Moore to dis-successful path through the guise himself for the sake of an guise himself for the sake of an elaborate trap - unlike, say, that other TV prankster, Chris Morris. Another difference between Morris and Moore: Morris sets up

his pranks to mock the mighty purely for satirical pleasure. Their pointlessness is what makes them so delicious. But Moore likes to have a higher moral purpose, which can force him to walk a tightrope between being a hard cheese and being just cheesy. His skill is pulling off the tele-

visual trick of playing David against Goliath without coming across as a smug git. This may be because his stunts come across as playground dares. Getting a bunch of people to dress up as witch-hunting New England pil-grims straight out of The Crucible. and then getting them to mock-chastise the US Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr as he walks out of his front door on his way to the office for being a pornographer (a pornographer, moreoever, who has spent \$50 million of taxpayers' money pursuing a grudge), is making a point about Starr's mental sickness and the absurdity of American politics; but it is also a student Rag Week stunt, something you'd dare only do for a bet. or for a television camera.

t is the presence of a camera that makes the trap work, because we can enjoy watching Moore's victim feel torn between wanting to punch him for his audacity and knowing that when a camera is pointing at you. the safest thing to do is just smile and squirm. You can be a lot braver with a TV camera on your shoulder, which is presumably why Moore has created what he calls The People's Democratic Republic Of Television. In last night's show. Moore successfully bullied a tight-fisted healthcare

REVIEW -



provider into coughing up for one of its policy-holders to have a pancreas transplant. It was a vintage Moore mixture of barking for the underdog, and vaudeville. It's That's Life, only with attitude.

Joseph

You can imagine Jonathan Newhouse, chairman of Condé Nast International, being just the sort of victim that Moore might enjoy bearding, especially after seeing him on To Russia with Vogue, last night's fascinating episode of BBC2's Trouble At The Top. When Newhouse decided to launch Vogue in the country his grandfather left, permiless, more than a century previously, the last thing he could have imagined was that the magazine's launch would coincide with the collapse of the rouble

and the Russian economy. In one surreal scene, an editorial team was inside Vogue's sleek penthouse offices in Moscow, quibbling over whether Julia Ormond or an icy Russian blonde should be on the cover, while outside jobless miners were staging a sit-down protest in Red Square.

The bit Moore might have bridled at was when Newhouse said: We talk about the fight between communism and capitalism, between totalitarianism and freedom; but there was another battle. and that's the battle between ugliness and beauty. People need beau-ty in their lives, they need beauty

in their surroundings, and what much more precarious life gets at they wear. And without beauty people suffer. And I think that one of the reasons communism fell was not only economic, or political, but

because it was so ugly."
Hey, it may not be Heidegger, but I'm with Newhouse on this one. Communism is too dreary. People can stomach only so much worthiness. That's why Italians drive Alfa Romeos, and why governments subsidise the arts when it would be far more "sensible" to build more hospitals.

lso there was something

moving about seeing New

house return to his grand-father's birthplace and acknowledge that, whatever his soul might owe to Russia, he would never have become what he is today had grandpa not left for Manhattan. Now if you thought Vogue's Russian birth looked precarious. Snapshot (BBCI) showed how

the coalface of fashion. It followed the designer Andrew Groves - who is being hailed as the next big thing - preparing for his show at last week's London Fashion Week. But for all the buzz and critical adulation, Groves is still working out of his cramped flat, assisted by pattern-cutters and seamstresses and guest-list organisers who are all slaving away for free.

Jane Gabriel's film did a slick

job of showing just how unglamorous fashion can be, even when you're the new cock of the catwalk. And how perplexing. How many grown-ups will want to wear Groves's clothes? In his first show, which was "all about disease and decay" (I'll bet Schiaparelli used to say the same thing), not only were the fabrics decomposing, but in one a platoon of bluebottles erupted from inside the dress and swarmed into the audience. Maybe that's what created all the buzz.

6.00am Business Breakfast (54568) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (83907) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (2855655) 9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (7313617) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (3397181) 11.00 Change That (3487758) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (3384617) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (7262655) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (78926) 12.30 Wipeout (4838013)

12.55 The Weather Show (T) (53972013) 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (86094) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (59801988) 1.40 Neighbours Lance is caught stealing (T) (35941346)

2.05 fromside The Chief gets new evidence for a seven-year-old case (r) (5155891)
2.55 Through the Keyhole (r) (T) (3815146) 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6708988) 3.45 Pocket Dragon (5353839) 3.55 Anthony Ani (9076471) 4.10 The Ali New Popeye Show (6228365) 4.20 Home Farm Twins (6144487) 4.35 Short Change (3375891) 5.00 Newsround (4047617) 5.10 Grange Hill (9734704)

5.33 Rewind (T) (196013) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (599810) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (471) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (723)

7.00 Watchdog with Anne Robinson. Consumer investigation show (T) (8520) 7.30 EastEnders Louise returns (T) (907) **CHOICE** Harbour Lights Romance is in the air between Melanie and harbourmaster Mike (T) (806810)

8.50 Points of View Viewers' opinions on recent programmes (T) (759471) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (1) (1839)



John McArdie as Graham and

9.30 Playing the Field Rita's meeting with her former husband doesn't leave her full of hope (T) (284636)

10.20 They Think It's All Over Again With guest panellists Tony Banks and John Maloney (r) (T) (932758) 10.50 Question Time With Alan Clark and

Lady Howe (T) (311549) 11.50 incident in a Small Town (1993) A prominent judge is accused of falling his daughter's lover, but an investigation reveals the case to be far more complicated Murder mystery, starring Walter Marthau and Stephanie Zimbalist

1.15am Weather (1466785) 1.20 BBC News 24 (35723360)

WALES:

10.50 Damon Rochefort Tonight (6'0) (531365) 11.20 Question Time (T) (288487) 12.20am FiLM; incident in a Small Town (T) Weather (T) (1676389) 1.50-6.00 BBC News

BBC2

7.00am CBBC Breakfast Show: Pingu 7.05
Teletubbles 7.30 Snorks 7.50 Blue Peter
8.20 Taz-Marka 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts
8.50 Fiddley Foodle Brd 9.00 Wise Up
9.10 Job Bank 9.20 Job Bank 9.30
Watch 9.45 Come Outside 10.00
Teletubbles 10.30 Storytime 10.45 The
Experimenter 11.05 Space Ark 11.15 Zig Zag 11.35 Pathways of Belief 11.50 Mad About Music 12.10pm English File 12.30 Working Lunch 1.00 Fiddley Foodle Bird

2.10 Awash with Colour (56722988) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (3576278) 2.45 Westminster (1) (4946452) 3.25 News; Weather (T) (4096704)

3.30 Turning Points (5332346) 3.35 The Village The day of the fête approaches (r) (4706810) 3.55 Kaye Advice show (9751655)

5.30 Today's the Day (T) (100) 6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine O'Brien befriends an alien (r) (1) (428100)

Industries in Shropshire (T) (5810)



8.30 CHOICE Wheeler Dealers Two teams of budding entrepreneurs are challenged to make their fortunes in the club promotion industry (1) (1617) 9.00 Red Dwarf The crew escape from their captors, unaware the authorities are on

9.30 Hortzon The perfectly preserved bodies of Iron Age munder victims found in a Cheshire peat bog in 1983 are subjected to modern larensic techniques in a bid to establish their identities and the cause of death (r) (T) (282278)

10.20 Tales of Tools The lathe (T) (364013) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (291346) 11.15 Late Review Seloved (368742) 11.55 Skiing Forecast (524636)

12.00am Despatch Box (15747) 12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University Housing — Business as Usual 1.00 From a Different Shore. An American Identity 2.00 Further Education The Key To Study Skills 4.60 Teaching Film and Media But Is if Any Good? 4.30 Reading Movies 5.00 Teacher Training Teaching Today Special 5.45 Open University: Visioning in Action 6.10 Lifestyles, Work and the Family (4664785)

WALES 7.30pm Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age (T) (549) 8.00-8.30 A Weish Herbal (2:6) (5810)

HTV WEST 5.30am ITN Morning News (63758) 6.00 GMTV (5019013)

9.25 Trisha (T) (8241742)

10.30 This Morning (T) (44863636)

1.30 Home and Away Tom enjoys his 15 minutes of tame (T) (97549)

2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5648704) 2.45 Wheel of Fortune (T) (984568) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (4094346)

3.25 CTV: Mopatop's Shop (4007810) 3.35
The Adventures of Dawdle (9067723)
3.45 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries
(9150487) 4.00 Lavender Castle
(6046891) 4.15 Hey Amold! (5722181)
4.40 Children's Ward (2310384)

5.36 HTV Crimestoppers (180452) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (1) (120839)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (1) (455278) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (1) (309636)

7.00 Emmerdale Laura hears news (1) (9948)

7.30 WEST: We Can Work It Out A report on

washing machines (425)
7.30 WALES: Wales This Week Current

the latest developments on dangerous

12.15pm HTV News (T) (4351278) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (98278) 1.00 Shortland Street (71162)

3.20 HTV News (1) (4197487)

5.10 A Country Practice (7199181)

6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (794704) 6.30 WEST: The West Tonight (1) (891)

1.10 The House Detectives (r) (41039384) 1.40 Hart-Davis on History (35962839)

4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (6430100) 4.55 Esther (T) (5415181)

6.45 Quantum Leap Sam jumps into the life of a mediocre boxer (r) (T) (813549) 7.30 Local Heroes (r) (T) (549)

8.00 Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age The amable steeplejack takes an informed look at the development of ron and steel



Tempers flare between DS Boulton

8.00 The Bill in the second of a three-part episode, Quinnan remains in a critica condition and the finger of blame points firmly at DS Boulton for allowing a personal vendetta to cloud his judgment M (4655)

9.00 Infidelity Women who abandoned their partners explain what prompted them to seek greener pastures (1) (4891) 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (64723) 10.30 HTV News and Weather (T) (507549)

10.40 Thursday Night Live Hard-hitting debates (309704) 11.40 WEST: Anatomy of Disaster The power and unpredictability of forest and bush

fires, revealing how Californian and Australian firefighters tackle these devastating phenomena (445365) 11.40 WALES: We Can Work it Out Dangerous washing machines (748094)

12.10 WALES: Tales from the Crypt: The Secret Grace Zabriskie stars (39 12.40am The Jerry Springer Show (7860940) 1.25 Pop Down the Pub (9644563) 1.55 Box Office America Top 10 (7481921) 2.20 Cybernet Computer news (7618853)

2.50 Murder, She Wrote Jessica investig an unsolved kidnapping (r) (8600747) 3.45 Potty About Pets (86680263)

4.10 Coach (41827650) 4.35 Judge Judy (59647414) 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (3634853)

CENTRAL As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Central News; Weather (1) (7598346) 1.00 Echo Point (71162) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (6063655) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (1) (885297) 3.20-3.25 Central News (7 (4197487) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Stree (7199181) 6.25-6.56 Central News; Weather (T) (463297) 6.55-7.00 Lifeline (T) (596384) 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (T) (507549) 11.45-12.45 The Wright Verdicts (839669) 1.30am Highlander (r) (1741245) 2.20 Pop Down the Pub (r) (7618853) 2.50 T in the Park (3760124) 3.40 Cybernet (18657245) 4.10 Central Jobfinder '99 (T) (6251921) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (3639230)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27 As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (4351278) 12.27-12.30 illuminations (7507365) 1.00 Emmerdale (r) (T) (71162) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (6063655) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (T) (985297) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (4197487) 5.08 Birthday People (1014948) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (7199181) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (T) (90687) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (507549) 11.40-12.40 The Wright Verdicts (445365)

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As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (4351278) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (7199181) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (T) (839) 6.30-7.00 Getaways (9/10) (891) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News; Weather (T) (507549) 11.40-12.40 New York News (445365) 5.00am-5.30 Freescreen (T) (17766)

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As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (7501181) 12.20-12.30 Anglia Newsland Weather (7599346) 5,10-5,40 Home, and Away (1) (7199181) 5.59 Anglia Weather (1) (177988) 6.00 Anglia News (1) (839) 6.30-7.00 About Anglia (891) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (637471) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News and Weather (1) (507549) 11.40 Crime Night (621988) 11.55 First Take (f) (903094) 12.10am-12.40 Tales from the Darkside (r)

S**4C**

Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (20565758) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (67184617) 9.00
Yagolion: History in Action (29444566) 9.20
Geographical Eye (29424704) 9.40 History in Action (42558075) 10.00 Middle English (91957487) 10.20 Fourways Farm (14397075) 10.30 Scientific Eye (51836636) 10.50 What the Papers Said (83887265) 11.00 The Number Crew (40183907) 11.10 Pitch Fever (79499926) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (68536297) 12.00pm Bewitched (T) (97315365) 12.30 Sesame Street (T) (26133810) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (67187704) 1.30 FILM: Background to Danger (1) (58150013) 3.00 48 Hours In New York (90408988) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (1) New York (90408988) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (67410988) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (67422723) 4.30 Rickl Lake (T) (67428907) 5.00 Planed Plant (90403433) 5.30 Countdown (T) (67515487) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (93751520) 6.10 Heno (T) (86241723) 7.00 Perbol y Cwm (T) (90423297) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (67429636) 8.00 Slaymaker (T) (90409617) 8.30 Pam Fi Duw? (T) (90411452) 9.00 i dot (68515704) 9.30 Monica - The Interview (T) (96213051) 10.35 i dot (35073013) 11.35 Friends Fether Ted (f) (T) (88789810) 11.35 Friends (96213051) 10.35 1 607 (35073013) 11.05 Father Ted (r) (1) (88789810) 11.35 Friends (1) (92569075) 12.05am King of the Hill (1) (71662921) 12.35 4 Later; Prey (99163389) 1.30 Fusion (3/6) (1) (36736762) 2.05 Diwedd

5.30am The Pink Panther (7328636) 5.40 Rat-A-Tat-Tat (r) (T) (3091926) 5.55 Sesame Street (4576810) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (76617)

9.00 Schools: History in Action (1) (4628817)
9.20 Geographical Eye Over Asia (1) (4631181) 9.40 History in Action (1) (1868926) 10.00 Middle English (1) (9042100) 10.20 Fourways Farm (1) (5342742) 10.30 Scientific Eye (1) (1862346) 10.50 What the Papers Said (8132617) 11.00 The Number Crew (T) (9725988) 11.10 Pitch Fever (3568520)

11.30 Powerhouse (T) (8742) 12.00pm Sesame Street (1) (61636) 12.30 Bewitched (r) (1) (89520) 1.00 Pet Rescue (1) (79704) 1.30 Travelog Treks North Korea (59818278)



John Mills stars in Roy Baker's classic thriller (1.45pm)

1.45 The October Man (1947) A chemist with suicidel tendencies is falsely accused of murdering his girlfriend. Asychological thritter, staming John Mills. Directed by Roy Baker (T) (41253162)

3.30 Collectors' Lot (1) (297) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (704)

4.30 Countdown (1) (3472758) 4.55 Rickl Lake (1) (5417549) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (568) 6.00 Dishes Dating show (T) (181)

6.30 Hollyoaks Sean and Cindy get a rude awakening (T) (433) **7.00 Channel 4 News;** Weather (1) (714839) 7.55 The 1999 Cittbank Private Bank Photography Prize The work of Yinka

Shonibare (T) (621839) 8.00 Wild Tales The weddell seal, able to survive in the Antarctic for longer than any other enemal (T) (7278)

8.30 CHOICE Access All Areas New series of the programme exploring disabled issues (T) (9013)

9.00 CROICE Ramsay's Boiling Point The renowned critic A.A. Gill is asked to leave Gordon Ramsay's restaurant (3/5) (T) (4549) 9.30 Monica - The Interview Monica Lewinsky talks about her relationship with President Bill Clinton and what the future holds for her (T) (3348742)

10.35 Whose Line is it Anyway? Improvisation game (r) (T) (528891) 11.05 Ally McBeal Ally makes a stand against dirty jokes (r) (T) (184617) 12.05am 4 Later Introduction; Prey (4386056)

1.00 Vids Officeat video review (49853) 1.30 Late Toon: Kakadu Cartoon (1679476) 1.35 NYPD Blue (6663292) 2.30 St Elsewhere (r) (8622969) 3.20 Raffles (1930) Ronald Colman stars as a gentleman thief constantly dogged by the boys in blue (7612476)

4.35 The Unholy Garden (1931) Suave thief Ronald Colman hides out in a Sahara hotel, where he gets involved in a plot to rob a wealthy swindler (2170766

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport Headline 7.00 WideWorld Part 10, Home economics in school (r) (T) (8283471)

7.30 Milkshake! (2715297) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r); 5 News Update

8.00 Havakazoo (r) (2917549)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (r); 5 News Update (2909520)

9.00 Holiday Park EastEnders actress Palsy Palmer visits the park for a holiday (1/5) (r) (2923100) 9.27 Russell Grant's Postcards (4576568)

9.30 The Oprah Wintrey Show (6489687) 10.20 Sunset Beach Meg realises Ben and Maria are still together (T) (3756810) 11.10 Leeza More studio-based debate

12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (2910636) 12.30 Family Affairs Declan firts with Siobhan (r) (T); 5 News Update (1461758) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Stephanie gets a surprise (T) (8282742)

1.30 The Roseanne Show Tanya Harding Gordon Michael Scation and Kalo Kaelin join the outspoken comedian (r): 5 News: Update (1460029) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (9349758) 2.30 Good Afternoon An hour of ententainment, featuring Liverpool Murris.

Cryptogram and Selling the Family Silver, 5 News Update (1874346) 3.30 Thompson's Last Run (TVM 1986)
Robert Mitchum stars in this drama about an ageing convict on the run, with Wilford Brimley as the detective on his trail.
Directed by Jerrold Freedman; 5 News

Update (3944623) 5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T); 5. News Update (3847636) 6.00 100 Per Cent Computer-generated quiz (2510839)

6.30 Family Affairs Yasmin's behaviour ... changes (T) (2594891)

7,00 5 News Update; Weather Round-up of the day's stories (1) (3546346) 7.15 European Cup Winners' Cup Chelsea v Valerenga (kick-olf 7.45pm). Full coverage of the quarter-final first-leg from Starnford Bridge, Presented by Steve Kenny Dalglish. Commentary comes from Jonathan Pearce and Ray

Clemence (T) (50909907) 9.50 Football's Foreign Legion Investigation into the influx of foreign players into the English game — could it lead to the death of soccer in England?: 5 News Update (1231988)

10.40 Red Shoe Diaries A stranger entrances a beautiful woman (1854520) 11.20 Bring Me the Head of Light Entertainment Improvised cornecty quiz (8532839)

11.50 The Pepsi Chart With a live performance by Sheryl C.ow. Introduced by Neil Fex (8871181) 12.20am Live and Dangerous The through-the-right sports magazine

(56700650) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H Heather tries to follow Dennis's example, and Judy gets a special prize in Bev's lottery (7201698) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (8975105)

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7.00cm Count Des April (2013) 7.20 Surgions (155.0) 8.00 Surgions (178.7) 8.30 Herbard Septem (188.10) 9.00 Sulficiant 3000 Cype of Winter (117.1) 1140 11.00 Facts (137.1) 100 Cype of 12.00 pm (153.8) 1.30 June (157.1) 100 Mark Apout for (153.8) 1.30 June (157.1) 100 Mark Apout for (155.0) 2.40 June (157.1) 100 Mark Apout for (155.0) 2.40 June (155.0) 100 June (155.0) 8.30 Maild 2 Wardard TV (5075) 9.00 Plantal (30704) 9.30 EN (91433) 10.30 Town (42549) 11.30 Star Took Voyages (45636) 12.30cm The Commen (81414) SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels.
15 yes any tim releptance 0900 80,888 Sky 80° CFFICE 1 (Temporador 51) The Edge (1987) Sky 80° CFFICE 2 (Temporador 60) As Good as 8 Gets (1987) Sky 80° CFFICE 3 (Temporador 59) Cent 1981 Martin (1987) Good Will Hunting (1997) 5a'r BO'r OFFICE 4 (functionals 58) Mortal Kombet 2: Annihilation (1997 FILMFOUR

6.00pm Picius on South Street (1963) (4319162) 8.00 Darkness in Tailinn (1993) (430907) 10.00 The Usual Suspects (1995) (3271738) 11.50 Reservoir Oogs (1991) (7923393) 1.30am City on Fire (1987) (5761105) 3.15 Mickey One (1985) (48846872) 6.00 Cicse SKY PREMIER SKY PHEMIEM

9.00am The Wodding (1997) (51121)

8.00 The Stone Boy (1994) (59333) 10,00

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SKY MOVIEMAX

SACAM They Won't Believe Ma (1947)
(7808103) 7.15 Torn Between Two
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Too Close to Home (1997) (5.0703)
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Too Close to Home (1997) (99487) 7.00
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Truckers (1997) (50-87) 11.00 AdversaRi: Feer the Rush (1995) (36384) 12.30
Without Warning (1996) (35735) 2.10
Blue Velvet (1988) (596747) 4.10
Emmanuelle V (1986) (5991369) SKY CINEMA

4.00pm Road to Singapore (1940) (3308.20 6.00 Call Northside 777 (1948) (2702981 8.00 92 in the Shade (1979) (27308.13 10.00 Judis (1977) (4645626) 12.00am NFA'S*H (1970) (81.3563) 1.35 The Dight Day (1996) (2237.20) 3.55 TNT 9,00pm Skylacked (1972) (32150519) 11,00 Take the High Ground (1953) (208324-6 1,00em Brotherly Love (1970) (23074696 2,00 Skylacked (1972) (17492130) 5,00 Clone

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00em Sports Centro 7.15 Wresting 8.15
You're On Sky Sports' 9.00 Racing News
9.00 Acrobics 10.00 Registed 11.30 Unitestate Sports 12.00pm Armbier 12.30
European Tour Worky 1.00 Live Gof 5.00
Wrestling 6.00 Sports Centre 6.30 Legans
Review 7.00 Gof 9.00 Sparish Feorica
10.00 Sports Centre 10.15 You're OnSports 11.00 Tools World Sport 12.00em Sports 11.00 Tions World Sport 12.00am Sports Centre 12.15 You re On Sw Sports 1.00 League Revew 1.30 Sports Footbal 2.30 Trans World Sport 3.30 Rugby Club 4.30 Sports Centre 4.45 Close

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Aerobics 7.30 Sports Centre 7.45 Roomy News 8.15 Unbelonable Sports 8.45 Sports Centro 9.00 Feb TV 9.30 Get Edita 12.30pm World Pool League 1.30 Rugtov League World 3.00 Australian Raty

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm World Wiresbing Fodoration Superstant 1.00 From Tv 2.00 FA Cup Final Classics 3.30 V-Max 4.00 Rusby Ladgue World 5.30 Inaco the PGA Tour 6.00 Cuting 8.30 Facing Tight Lines 7.30 for choicey 10.00 Babby Charten's Footbash Scraptock 11.30 Cose EUROSPORT 7:30am Affiel Co. 8:30 Women's Bathlon 10:00 Luge 10:30 Cog Sted Racing 11:00 Football 12:00pm Aniebos 12:30 Snow-coarding 1:00 Scatton 2:00 Live Bathlon 3:30 Nordic Siving 4:00 Sectioning 5:45 Live Saversing 7:00 Footbal

UK GOLD 7.00am Consticuts 7.30 Neighbours 7.55
EastEnders 8.30 The Ea 8.00 The Bit 8.30
When the Boat Comes In 10.30 Rhoda
11.00 Da'us 11.55 headrbours 12.25pm
EastEnders 1.00 Julie Braio 2.00 Dallas
2.55 The Bit 3.25 The Bit 3.55 EastEnders
4.30 Rhoda 5.00 All Creatures Graz's and
Smart 8.00 Dynash, 7.00 Sporth Children
7.40 Dat's Arms 8.20 The Britias Empire
9.00 The Union Dates 9.45 Retirem 10.25

7.40 Dat 5 Ams 8.20 the entities bright 9.00 the Young Ones 9.46 Bottom 10.25 Common as Muck 11.35 the 96 12.05am the Bit 12.35 Backadder the Third 1.10 French and Saunders 1.45 Dangerfeld 2.45 Shopping with Scientishop

GRANADA PLUS 6.00am Within Those Wass 7.00 Holding the Fort 7.30 Doctor at Large 8.00 Holding 8.30 The Many Wites of Patrick 9.00 Cusso Commaion. Street 9.30 Emmerday Sam 10.00 Upsters, Downstain 11.00 The Gentle Touch 12.00pm Cusso Command Street 12.30 Programmed Sam 1.00 The Many Manager of 12.30 Command Street 12.30 Command Sam 1.00 The Many Manager of 12.30 Command Sam 1.00 The Manager of 12.30 Command Sam 1.00 Command Sam 1. Emmandate Farm 1.00 The Many Wives of Entires 0.30 Fram 1,00 The Many Wives of Partick 1,30 Me and My Gid 2,00 Upstains Downstains 3,00 The Love Book 4,00 The Protessorials 8,00 Harr To Hart 6,00 Emmerdale Farm 6,00 Classic Concellon Street 7,00 The Protessorials 8,00 The



Sanny Hill Show 9.00 The Sweeney 10.00 The Brian Conley Show 10.00 Wheelappers and Shunters' Social Club 11.00 Granada Men and Motors CARLTON SELECT 5.00pm What's Cooking? 5.30 Gndlock 6.00 London Bidge 6.30 Cur House 7.90 Boon 8.00 Animal SOS 8.30 An Inspector Calls 9.00 St Essentier 10.00 Tales from the Hollywood Hills 11.00 Hill Street Blues

DISNEY CHANNEL 8.00em Garreni Bears 8.25 Classic Tours 8.25 Tale Spin 7.00 Classic Tours 7.10 Alaction 7.25 101 Dameters 8.00 Good Froop 8.25 Classic Tours 8.45 New Adventures of Winne the Pools 9.00 The Adventures of Spin 8.05 Anima Shell 9.00 Date 10.00 10.00 English Programs 10.00 English Activatives to 300 talls minute 35ch at 10 Proceed Dragons 9.30 Beer in the Big Blue House 9.55 The Toolhoush Fermy 10.00 Bee Size 10.10 Rosse and Jan 10.30 The Big Gorage 10.45 PB and J Over 11.00 Sosamo Street 12.00pm The Activatives of Spot 12.05 Annual Shelf 12.15 Pocket

Dragons 12.30 Sear in the Big Blue House 12.55 The Toothbrush Family 1.00 Bits Size 1.10 Fosie and Jim 1.30 The Big Garage 1.45 PB and J Otter 2.00 New Adventures 1.45 PB and J Other 2.00 New Adventures of Winnig hip Pops, 2.30 Quack Pack 3.00 The Little Mermaid 3.30 Art Altack 4.00 101 Daimstans 4.30 Hercules: The TV Show 5.00 Recass 5.15 Pepper Arn 5.30 Smart Guy 8.00 Tean Angel 8.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Fil.Mt. Alice in Wenderland (1951) 8.20 Honey | Shurth, the Kidt. The TV Show 9.00 Developes 10.00 Home Improvement 9.00 Dinosaus 10.00 Home Irror

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.98am Adventures of Dodo 6.05 Power Renges Turbo 6.50 Power Renges Turbo 6.55 Spidermen 7.20 Cogy and the Cockroaches 7.30 Donley Kong Country 8.00 Hero Turtles. The Next Mutation 8.25 The Incredible Hulk 8.50 from Man 9.15 Fartissic Four 9.40 X-Men 10.05 Casper 10.30 Cogy and the Cockroaches 10.55 Enk/Strangenza 17.65 Bobby's World 11.30 Life with Loue 11.55 Horne to Rent 12.05pts. Dennis and Grasher 12.30

Dorley Kong Country 1.00 Movedi The New Adventures of Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Venture 1.95 The Incredible Huk 2.20 km Man 2.45 Fantaish Four 3.10 X-Men 3.30 Fox Kids X-Press 3.35 Spateman 4.00 Goosebumps 4.25 Hern Turtes: The Next Mutation 4.50 Casper 5.00 Dennis and Gresne 3.30 Ace Vortica 8.00 Dorley King Country 8.30 Eel-Strangards 8.55 Oggy and the Codynaches 7.00 Close Interests Comments NICKELODEON

NICKELODEON

8.00am Rocko's Modern Life 6.30 Bruno
the Kid 7.00 Callog 7.30 Rugrads 8.00 The
Wild Thomberrys 8.30 Arthur 9.00
Children's BBC 10.00 Wirrze's House
10.30 Papa Boaver Stores 11.00 The
Magic School Bus 11.30 PB BearBudge
the Lifte Helicoglet/Animal Arthus-Famèy
Ness 12.00pm Rugrads 12.30 Bue s Cues
1.00 Bantarias in Pigamas 1.30 Lifte Bear
Stores 2.00 Peddington Bear/Lozae's
BC 2.00 Children's BBC 3.30 Doug 4.00
Three Friends and Jany 4.30 Rugrads 5.00
Sister Sister 5.30 Kerian and Kel 6.00
Renford Rejocis 6.30 Moesha 7.00 Cose
BRAVO BRAVO

8.00pm Martial Law 9.00 Extreme Championship Wresting 9.30 Cops 10.00 The Late Lounge 10.30 Erota: Confessions 11.00 Fit.Mr. Bloody Birthday (1960) 1.00am Erotic Confessions 1.30 The Late PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Jenny 7.30 Grace Under Fire 8.00 Ellen 8.30 Spot Cay 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey 9.30 Whose Line Is it Anyway¹ 10.00 Fasier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Senteld 11.30 The Lany Sanders Show 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman 1.00 Tax 1.50 Frontine 2.00 Dr Kazz 2.30 Tibs and Fibs 3.00 Nightsland 3.30 Abbot and Costello 4.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: SOM-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Boomberg Information Television 8.00 Sigtings 8.00 Buch Rogers in the 25th Century 10.00 Quantum Leap 11.00 Dark Shadows 11.30 The Ray Bradbury Reates 12.00pm The Twingth Zone 12.30 Dark Shadows 10.00 Television 12.30 Days Shadows 12.00 Days Shadows 12.

HOME & LEISURE

8.00am Today's Gournet 6.30 Graham Kerr 7.00 Room Service 7.30 The Painted House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Baby Story 9.00 Simply Painting 9.30 Poted History with Antony Hann 10.00 Real Garders 10.30 Cookabout with Greg and Max 11.00 The Dependin 11.25 The Hom meat 13.00 the Department 13.20 the home and Lessure House 11.30 Rev Hunt Fishing Advantures 12.00 pers Our House Down Under 12.30 Antiques Trail 1.00 Our House 1.30 Hometime 2.00 New Yankee Workshop 2.30 Home Again with Bob Vila 3.00 Tits Old House with Steve and Norm 3.30 Go Fishing DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hurt Fishing Adventures 4.30 Waker's World 5.00 Time Travelers 5.30 Terms 4.500 Walde 505 6.30 Adventures of the Quest 7.30 The Quest 8.00 Discover Magazine 9.00 Science Frontiers 10.00 Invisible Places 11.00 Forensc Detectives 12.00mm Super Structures 1.00 Terra X 1.30 Time Travelers 2.00 Close ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm The New Advertures of Black Bossin 12.30 Hollywood Saferi 1.30 Crocodile Hunter 2.00 Wildsife ER 2.30 HumanNature 3.30 Hamys Pactice 4.00 Jack Hamais Xoo Lie 4.30 Amail Doctor 5.00 Fet Rescue 5.30 Crocodile Hunter 6.00 The New Advertures of Black Beauty 6.30 Lesser 7.00 Redscowery of the World 8.00 Ammai Doctor 6.30 The Blue Beyond 9.30 Emergency Vets 10.00 Deadly Australiers 10.30 The Big Annel Show 11.00 Wild Rescues 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00 The Cose NATIONAL GEOCEDADUIC

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Shipereck on the Skelaton Coast 8.00 Miracle of Sea 9.00 Search for the Battechip Bismarck 10.00 Teams 11.00 Treasures of the Teams 11.30 A Natural History 12.00am Lifeboat Friendly Rivals 12.30 Lifeboat No. a Cross Word Spoken

HISTORY

CARLTON FOOD SANLE FOOD Network Daily 9.30 Coxon's Ritchen College 10.00 Chef for a Day 10.30 Africe and Coolong 11.00 Worrall Thompson Cooks 11.30 A Store of the Action 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30 Food Factory 1.00 Coxon's Kerchen College 1.30 The Green Gournet 2.00 The Cookshop 2.30 Food Network Daily 8.00 Scotland's Larder 3.30 A Store of the Action 4.00 From the Ground Up 4.30 Mindule's Indian Kitchen 5.00 Close

LIVING 6.00am Thry and Crew 6.20 Ten Plus Two
6.00am Thry and Crew 6.20 Ten Plus Two
6.40 Printent the Froc 6.45 Greedysaurus,
end the Gang 6.50 Polike Dot Shores 7.00
Precision Parenting 7.05 Professor Butchle
7.30 Calliou 7.35 Bug Alert 7.56 Procheal
Parening 8.00 Barney and Friends 8.25
Babaloo 8.30 Thry Tales 8.35 Thry and
Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Can't
Cools, Whort Cools 9.30 The Rosesime
Show 10.00 The Jeny Springer Show 10.50
Many Povich 11.40 Brookeds 12.10pm
Aremal Rescue 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10
Spocial Bables 1.40 Bryond Sellel Fact or
Fiction 2.10 The Jeny Springer Show 3.10
Living Room 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50
Rolonds 5.40 Ready, Seedy, Cook 6.15
The Jeny Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 The Jery Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911
7.35 Annual Rescue 8.00 Adrensim Juniors
9.00 Fil.M: Dying to Love You (1993)
11.00 The Sex Files II 12.00am Circse

ZEE TV S.00am Char Raeste 5.30 Hi Thist Haj 6.00 Haro Kal Aaj Aur Kal 6.30 Awaz Nayee Andaz Wolf 7.00 Fam. Balbate 7.30 News 8.00 Karobari Dunya 8.30 Tara 9.00 Zanjesten 9.30 Zee Heath Show 10.00 Units: Blucht Ke Budhu 11,00 Pat Luck Units: Blucht Ke Budhu 11,00 Pat Luck 11,30 Patampara 12,00pm Filial 3,60 Bengla TV Nikhatier Fiai 3,30 Public Demand 4,00 Albar Birbal 4,30 Pardeal Antaishan 5,30 Dataer 6,00 Pop Time 8,30 Artiacstati 5.30 Lattage 8.00 irop intre o.su
Fip Hip Hurray 7.00 Gudgudee 7.30
Chemagic 8.00 News 8.30 Chehat Aur
Natral 9.00 Hearaten 9.30 Blunt 2 10.30
X.Zone 11.30 Teva Fun Ten Kaham
12.00 Rm News 12.30 Zee Busness Show
1.00 Bangla TV 1.30 Par Martan 2.00 FR.Mt.
Hindi Movie 4.30 Temit An Hour With

Frenchman takes on task of improving fortunes of British



THURSDAY MARCH 4 1999

England drop Dawson, Catt and Beal for match against Ireland

Woodward wields the axe

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND'S half-back pendulum swung once again yesterday when the XV to play Ireland at Lansdowne Road on Saturday was named. Kyran Bracken and Paul Grayside, along with Matt Perry at full back, for an encounter that will be pivotal to the Five Nations Championship.

This was to have been the season in which Clive Woodward, the England coach, reduced change to a mini-mum. However, there have been no injuries to affect his selection. He has balanced the evidence of the past two games that England have played, against South Africa and Scotland, and decided that three members of his side's spine -Matt Dawson. Mike Catt and Nick Beal - must go.

It is a critical change of direction against an Ireland side

France keep faith.

that despite the withdrawal of Jonathan Bell, is savouring the prospect of a first win against England since 1993. It brings together players in Bracken and Grayson who, despite having won 19 and 18 caps respectively, have partnered each other for England only three times, although, as Woodward was swift to observe, those games include the reference point that the 26-36 draw with New Zealand in December 1997 became.

That was the game in which Grayson virtually reinvented himself as a fly half, playing close to the advantage line, though on Saturday he is expected to provide the crucial element of control that Catt does not always do. To be fair to Catt, his past two outings have been encouraging. A fortnight ago, he and Dawson had to play behind an England pack whose collective form was indifferent, yet the forwards survive intact.

weekend," Woodward said. "We're fully aware of how difficult this game will be and how well Ireland have been playing, particularly

Bracken, right, restored to the team at half back in partnership with Grayson, prepares to set his backs in motion during England training yesterday

against France in a match they should have won. The forwards know there is pressure ners on them, both among the replacements and in the A side. They are under no illusions. The performance against Scotland was not acceptable."

. That asks the question of why Martin Corry or Danny Grewcock, for example, against Ireland. The critics of Woodward's favoured back row, composed of three players who are essentially flankers, include a former England forwards coach in David Robinson, who would play a specialist No 8 such as Corry and keep either Richard Hill or Neil Back among the replacements, with a specific role to play in the second half. Lawrence Dallaglio, the captain, will wear the No 8 shirt and has promised that players such as himself. Martin Johnson and Jeremy Guscott will recapture their best form this

weekend. There promises to be an interesting clash around the fringe of the set-pieces if Ireland intend to set Victor Costello, who weighs in at 18 stone, running at the England defence, which was none too sound against Scotland.

Bracken's form for Saracens has been compelling this season, injuries to back and hand affecting his availability for England's pre-Christmas internationals. At least that

BParry; D.L. Hees, J.P. Wildinson, J.C. Guscott, D.D. Luger; P.J. Grayson, K.P.P. Bracken; J.Leonard, R. Cockertt, D.J. Garforth, M.O. Johnson, T.A.K. Rodber, R.A. Hill, N.A. Back, L.B. N. Daßaglio (captain), Replacements: M.J.S. Dawson, M.J. Catt, N.D. Beat, M.E. Corry, D.J. Grewcock, V.E. Libogu, N. McCarthy.

ly well on the southern-hemisphere tour last summer. Now Kyran is over his injuries and back in the squad, it's important to give him a go again," Woodward said. 'It's always a difficult call to

choose between two worldclass players, but Bracken has been playing very well. The Perry, they're in on merit. Grayson is a good reader of the game, a good controller. I did consider moving Jonny Wilkinson to fly half, but the bottom line is that he's not playing there for his club."

More to the point, in the ab-sence of Will Greenwood and Phil de Glanville, Woodward's cupboard at centre is relatively bare and Wilkinson fills the void. Perry comes in for his fifteenth cap in place of Beal, who, despite his well-taken try against Scotland, has never



looked utterly secure under the high ball, of which Ireland

will offer plenty on Saturday. himself at fly half on occasions for Bath and is turning himself into a goalkicker with some success, though with Wilkinson and Grayson in the side that is one skill unlikely to be tested. For the first time in nine years at any level. Gravson will start a match as second-choice kicker, behind Wilkinson, who landed four

out of four against Scotland. Even if I'm not in goalkick ing mode, you still have to do all the other things well," Grayson said. "Number ten is a tough shirt to hang on to, but we have been playing well at Northampton and confident players come from winning

Ireland, meanwhile, decided that the thigh injury he sustained at the weekend would not permit the unfortunate Bell to play. "We didn't want to take the chance of having to make a late change," Donal Lenihan, the team manager, said. He has the comfort that Rob Henderson, the Wasps centre, can comfortably replace Bell and has already to be the man of the match.

Venables not to blame in Palace crisis

TERRY VENABLES said vesterday that the crisis at Crystal Palace, which went into voluntary administration yesterday, was "some-thing out of my control". Venables, who was appointed last July by Mark Goldberg, the club chairman, at a reported salary of El million, said that it would be "very unfair" to blame him as head coach, adding that insufficient money had been available to buy

After a five-hour board meeting yesterday, the Na-tionwide League first divi-sion club, which is between E7 million and £9 million in debt, will be administered by two accountants from Buchler Phillips to buy time to meet debts from creditors. All the players are up for

Venables, who stood down as head coach in January, has been retained as a consultant by Palace, although he does not attend matches in an official capacity. The former England coach said yesterday: "I liked Goldberg a lot. He had a lot of good ideas and was very enthusiastic. He is an experienced businessman, but this business is

We were going to spend £10 million and maybe the likes of Barmby and Sheringham may have joined us to go straight back to the FA Carling Premiership). I think he overstretched himself more than he would have hoped ... in buying the club.

Goldberg hought Palace for £23.5 million from Ron Noades, who had built up the club and who has retained ownership of the ground and the training centre. Speaking on The Last Word on Sky Sports News. Venables said: "Very quickly into the season, money wasn't available, the contract is breached and I have got to make decision again. Then he said — and this I didn't know - if we don't go up straight away, we have

gone over budget.
Then he had to get rid of the players that were over a certain amount of money and I came into that catego-

ry and we sat down

sensibly. Many years before, I may not have taken

In January, Palace were forced to sell Matt Jansen, their outstanding striker, to Blackburn Rovers for £4.5 million,

Asked whether his spell at Palace had been a failure.
Venables replied: 'How could it be when I was only there six months? That would very unfair. It was something out of my control. hope he [Goldberg] gets through this."

Portsmouth, where Venabies was chairman last sea-son, and Chester City are two other Nationwide League clubs at present in administration.

Jim McAvoy, the former Palace chief executive, who resigned from the board on Tuesday, has called on Goldberg to reduce his stake in the club, but the chairman has vowed to light on, insist-ing that the decision to go into administration will make the club healthier in in the meantime, Gold-

berg has been forced to pay £500,000 in outstanding wages to staff out of his own pocket, but the players are learful about their futures. Simon Rodger, the longestserving player, said yester-day. This has come as a big shock. The last thing administrators are going to do is approve anyone getting a new contract. I am on far less money than a lot of players here, but no one is going to be safe from being cleared

"The only good thing about this is that the chairman has finally stopped hiding the truth. But it would be nice if he could call a meeting of the players and ex-plain exactly what the future

He added: "We did get paid, which was something, but should never have got in this situation. Mark Goldberg has Palace at heart but he has been very naive."

Goldberg has said that the present board inherited a wage bill of £7 million a year, which has now been reduced to £4.5 million.

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However, it is understood that several players are still receiving high salaries.

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done so - against France, when Henderson turned out has allowed Dawson a run of five games on which to build a Perry, right, and Grayson have both benefited from case after playing outstanding-

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

obin Cook, the For-eign Secretary, may be thought to have ryone has heard of him. In the last World Cup qualifying se-ries, he was our best player had enough on his diplomatic plate at the moprobably the best we have ever had. Saying Latvia aren't ment, but he should at least be warned. Latvia is outraged at the refusal of the Department good enough is a joke. The people who have made this de-cision are not football experts, for Education and Employment (DfEE) to grant a work permit to Marians Parhars, they are civil servants." one of the Baltic state's lead-Southampton are similarly

Jones: mystified by ruling

Southampton want to sign him, and have agreed a fee of £800,000 and a four-year con-tract, but the DfEE refuses to play ball. Adding insult to injury, it has ruled that Parhars, 22, cannot appear in the FA Carling Premiership — and assist Southampton's fight against relegation — because it deems him to be not of sufficient standard. Officials at the Latvian embassy in London

ing footballers.

are not amused. "It is a big insult to Latvia," Silvester Savickis, the political and press secretary said. Marians is the No I footballer in our country and he would be the first Latvian to play football in England. Eve-

European championship qualifying campaign with six points from three matches. They had a 3-i away win against Norway, who played in the World Cup finals last summer and are 76th in the world rankings - 16 places above Wales and ten higher than Estonia, whose goalkeepapset and have appealed. er. Mart Poom, plays for Der-

Latvia lead group two in the "It's mystifying," Brian Truscott, the Southampton secretary, said. "We received a fax back from the DfEE saying that his work permit has been refused because he doesn't meet the required standard - because Latvia aren't ranked high enough in the world.

To qualify for a work permit, the rules state that you must have played 75 per cent of the competitive internationals for your country within the last two years. Marians has been a regular for Latvia. He played in eight of their nine matches in the qualifying stages of the last World Cup

Latvian ace gets cold shoulder and missed the ninth only because he was suspended."

> vere him as the Michael Owen of Latvian football has played in 31 matches since he broke into the national side three years ago. He helped Skonto Riga, his club, to the national championship last season and, while on trial with Southampton, scored a hat-trick against Oxford United in a reserve game.

"We felt that every rule laid down had been met," David Jones, the Southampton manager, said. "but they don't count Latvia as being strong enough. How can that be right? I've been quoted prices of around £5 million for players of similar standard in this country but if I had to spend that kind of money, I'd bankrupt the club."

English football has recently leatured players from Georgia, Belarus, Jamaica, Costa Rica, Ivory Coast, Moldova, Ghana, Morocco, Zaire, Zimbabwe and China. Latvia, apparently, will not be joining

